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Approximately 70 cents of each Cooperative Program dollar is distributed to the Home and Foreign Mission Boards to send some 8,000 missionaries to 120 foreign nations and all 50 United States of America. Just over 20 cents is used by the six SBC seminaries in training over 12,000 students. Of the remaining, 4 cents is directed to the Radio and Television Commission and less than 6 cents is divided among the other SBC agencies.

On April 21, 1991, thousands of Southern Baptist Churches across America will be celebrating the results of our working together through the Cooperative Program. Join us by planning to observe **COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DAY** in your church.

## Belorussian churches seek to preserve their children

By Art Toalston

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Baptists in the Soviet republic of Belorussia are trying to save a future generation of church leaders now suffering from nuclear radiation.

In the Belorussian republic, where heavy radiation fell from the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster nearly five years ago, Baptist churches are providing food for 1,000 needy Christian children, reported Ivan V. Bykatyi, president of the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of Belorussia.

The children are among 800,000 Belorussian youths whose lives are threatened by radiation, Bykatyi said. Many are in hospitals in Minsk, the republic's capital, and other hospitals throughout the region.

"The doctors often weep" as they hold the children in their arms "because they cannot help them," said Bykatyi, who discussed Belorussia's spiritual and physical needs in a March 6 visit to the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va.

Medical facilities throughout the republic lack modern equipment and

medicine to diagnose and treat cancer and other illnesses caused by radiation exposure, he said. In many cases, hospital labs have only a microscope.

Belorussia, with 12 million people, is north of the site in the Ukraine where the world's worst nuclear accident occurred in April 1986, sending large amounts of radiation into the air. Winds carried much of it over Belorussia. Radiation also was detected in numerous other countries.

Baptists in Belorussia count 116 churches with 10,000 members, Bykatyi said. Christians survived Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's prediction that worship in the Soviet Union would be stamped out by 1980, he noted. Despite new laws for religious freedom, he voiced uncertainty about "how long (the door) will be open, but we want to do all that is possible so we can tell the people about Christ."

"Atheism has robbed the souls of the people, has made them empty. They need spiritual food," Bykatyi said.

Toalston writes for FMB.

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, April 18, 1991

Published Since 1877

## Church conflict often leads to termination of pastors

NASHVILLE (BP) — In Southern Baptist churches the most common way to resolve serious conflict is to force out the pastor, according to new research released by the Sunday School Board.

In a survey conducted by the board's corporate planning and research department, more than 1,000 directors of missions were contacted for information about churches which had been involved in serious conflict within the past three years.

Nine out of 10 pastors in churches which experience serious conflict are forced to leave, according to the survey results released by Norris Smith, forced termination consultant in the board's church administration department. He presented findings to state Baptist convention church administration consultants during their annual meeting Nov. 15-16 in Nashville.

The most common procedure for dealing with church conflict is to turn the problems over to the deacons, according to 63 percent of respondents. A distant second was committees, with 13 percent. A significant 11 percent reported they usually ignore conflict and "hope it will go away in time."

When asked how pastors could improve their abilities to prevent conflict, 62 percent of the church leaders responded that a "clearer understanding of the church's people and the way they prefer to do things" is the

number one need. Second was "better communication skills," with 58 percent.

"One difficulty comes with the perception of being pastor of the church instead of pastor of the people," explained Smith. "For the first few months, a pastor should spend time finding out who it is he has been called to lead, especially in the areas of economics, culture, and emotions."

"When church members get the idea the pastor accepts them as they are and is not trying to reshape them into some image he got in a classroom, they start to trust him," Smith continued.

The top suggestion from lay church leaders to staff members on avoiding conflict was a better understanding of how to handle conflict without disaster, with 63 percent. A close second, with 60 percent, was New Testament teachings on Christian relationships.

When asked about factors which had led to the serious conflict, only one received a majority from the respondents. Personality conflicts, with 58 percent, was listed most often, followed by failure of pastor or staff to measure up to expectations of the congregation, 46 percent; who's going to run the church, 42 percent; pastoral leadership style — too authoritarian, 41 percent; and pastoral leadership — too weak, 34 percent.

Results of church conflicts in nine out of 10 churches included the departure of the pastor. The departure of church members ranked second, 84 percent. Two other highly ranked results were withholding tithes and offerings, with 54 percent, and resignation of some lay leaders, 42 percent.

"Keep the pulpit free of conflict management," Smith advised pastors. "Discussing the conflict from the pulpit infuriates those involved and confuses those who don't know about it."

The cycle, or spiral of conflict, wherein mistakes are repeated in the methods chosen by local churches to deal with conflict, needs to be broken, Smith said. A model is needed of ways to handle conflict and train pastors, church leaders and especially new Christians in how to handle conflict and keep the church intact.

Smith presently is involved in training mediators in several state conventions who will be available upon request to go into churches and teach the model for resolving conflict redemptively.

Forced termination of ministers in the Southern Baptist Convention was dubbed "the problem that won't go away" by Smith, who hopes to train mediators in each state convention to be an extension of the model he has developed for teaching redemptive conflict resolution.



Twenty-two couples of First Church, Bruce, were recognized for observing 50 years or more of marriage at the recent Young at Hearts meeting, with 14 couples in attendance. A luncheon was held in their honor. Those who attended were, left to right, top, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. Durant Box, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Young, Mr. and Mrs.

Ernest Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Plunk, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Norwood; bottom, Mr. and Mrs. Eron Brasher, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Oakley, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Shelton, Mr. and Mrs. Dale McGregor, Mr. and Mrs. S. Q. Bowles and Mr. and Mrs. Ruel Spratlin. (Photo by Celia D. Hillhouse)

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL**  
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## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

## The revival of religion

In 1921 Dr. W. W. Hamilton was evangelism director at the Home Mission Board. He was invited to New Orleans Seminary (BBI) to deliver a series of lectures on evangelism. These lectures were later published by the HMB and Hamilton quoted from an unknown writer the Revival of Religion. Methods may change, but our need of revival remains the same.

R — eclaims the church from formal religion, lifelessness, and decay;  
E — liminates dissensions, strifes, jealousies, divisions, and prejudices;  
V — italizes all that is worthy and worthwhile in church activities;  
I — ncreases the strength, effectiveness, and success of the church;  
V — isualizes the church's responsibility to a lost world;  
A — wakens and recovers backslidden and worldly church members;  
L — ays upon Christian hearts their individual responsibilities;

R — ecovers sinners from the guilt, power, and penalty of sin;  
E — nlists the redeemed in active church membership and Christian service;  
L — ifts Christians above worldly entanglements and encumbrances;  
I — ntensifies moral and spiritual interests in the community;  
G — enerates an atmosphere of religious fervor and enthusiasm;  
I — nspires brotherly love and good fellowship among Christ's followers;  
O — pens the way for many moral and civic reforms;  
N — urtures and strengthens faith and good works.

Mississippi is near or at the top in the percentage of churches having one or more revivals each year. The season of spring revivals is upon us, and prayer is needed if we are successful. Revivals of repentance, prayer, visitation, and witnessing are sorely needed, and can spark a spiritual awakening in our state. Great revivals have started when "my people, who are called by my name . . ."

## Crossover Atlanta — A mission opportunity

At least seven means of presenting the gospel will be used during the SBC, June 4-6. Southern Baptists will take the message of hope by foot, on the streets, on billboards, through feedings, over the phone, and at youth rallies.

Richard Jackson of North Phoenix and Darrell Gilyard of Richardson, Texas, will begin the effort on Friday night in downtown Atlanta. Mobile disaster units from six states including Mississippi will feed the homeless. Exclusive use of the laser billboard inside the airport will take place on Sunday. In addition, individuals will be witnessing around the city during the week.

## U.S. social indicators 1950-1988

Social Issue	1950	1988	% increase
Population	151,410,000	250,410,000	65
Homicide	6,700	23,000	243
Suicide	16,500	33,000	100
Abortion	200,000	1,600,000	800
Abortion Under age 20	50,000	430,000	760
Euthanized Patients	1,000	12,000	1,200
Births out of wedlock	175,000	920,000	426
Rape (includes correction for unreported cases)	56,000	185,000	230
AIDs victims	—	35,000	—
Divorce	385,000	1,200,000	212
Aid to dependent children	—	\$21,500,000,000	—
Child abuse cases	120,000	2,900,000	2,317

Source: Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the U.S., 1989 edition. Christians & Society Today

## Sons of Nabal

"His name was Nabal, and his wife's name was Abigail. She was an intelligent and beautiful woman, but her husband, a Calebite, was surly and mean in his dealing" (1 Sam. 25:3).

Some time ago, a lady wrote to Ann Landers wanting to unload her kill-joy husband. She described his virtue as a good family man, church-going, and he did not smoke or drink. On the flip side he was mean, selfish, critical, deceitful, rude, inflexible, and unforgiving. The clincher: "He sucks the joy out of life on a daily basis and I've put up with it for 40 years."

Miss Ann said she had 12,000 letters from readers who wanted to dump their spouses. One even offered a \$1,000 going-away present.

I first checked to make sure my wife didn't have that kind of money, and then began some deep reflecting. Morally upright, but unforgiving?

Church-going, but deceitful? Where are the spirit of Christ-likeness and the marks of the Holy Spirit in such a person? Reminded me of the Pharisees; it was okay to pay Judas 30 pieces of silver to betray Christ, but when Judas returned it, they were too "honest, religious, and moral" to take it, so they bought a burial site.

Can such a person be morally right, doctrinally correct, church-going, and still be a thousand miles from true Christianity? Much more important is the spirit of Christianity; "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Gal. 5:22). What has a man advantaged if he gains the best doctrinal stance in the SBC and loses the spirit of Christ?

Denise George, wife of Timothy George of Beeson Divinity School, has written an article on "Spouse abuse: what the church can do." Don't miss it in this issue.

## Spouse abuse: What the church can do about it

By Denise George

Domestic violence is quickly becoming America's number one health problem.

In the United States today, spouse abuse specialists claim some 8.7 million men abuse their wives. Abuse includes murder, rape and sexual assault, slaps, kicks, as well as threats, name-calling, personal put-downs, and other forms of physical and emotional battering.

Believe it or not, spouse abuse is as intense a problem in the church as it is outside the church. National statistics apply to the Christian evangelical community at about the same level of frequency as they apply to the secular world!

## One Woman's Story

Sharon\* met her husband, Ralph\*, a widower, through mutual friends. A surgeon and deacon in the church, Ralph is described by his friends as a kind, caring, gentle man.

"After two weeks of marriage," Sharon recalls, "I dropped the dirty bed sheets on the floor. For no apparent reason, Ralph became enraged. That's when I discovered Ralph's temper."

Shortly after, Ralph began hitting Sharon, throwing her against furniture, grabbing her hair, and shoving her to the floor.

Neighbors could hear Sharon's screams during the frequent beatings, and would sometimes gather on the street beneath the bedroom window.

"They knew what was going on," Sharon says, "but no one knew what to do. And no one wanted to get involved."

Ralph was liked and respected in the church where he had been a lifetime member. During their 15 years of marriage, Sharon devoted herself to Ralph and to his church. She told no one in the church about the abuse. And no one suspected it.

"Ralph was careful to bruise only the parts of my body and legs that my clothes would hide," Sharon said.

After a beating to the head, Sharon suffered permanent hearing loss in one ear. "Trauma-caused," her doctor wrote on her chart.

Sharon also endured emotional abuse. Ralph called her names, tapped the home phone, and allowed her no contact with friends.

"People often ask me why I didn't leave him, why I stayed with him so long," Sharon said. "During those years, I felt alone, alienated, and worthless. I lost the will to live. I was so under Ralph's control, I couldn't even think for myself. I felt like I didn't belong to the human race."

## Spouse abuse warning signs

Become suspicious of spouse abuse if you notice a woman in your church or community who:

- \*has visible cuts, bruises, black eyes, etc. and her explanations are not consistent with the injuries (i.e. "I ran into a door knob and got this black eye.")
- \*is reluctant to invite anyone from church to her home
- \*consistently misses appointments or church commitments
- \*has sporadic church attendance and unexplained absences
- \*seems on edge, jittery, withdrawn, or has frequent mood swings
- \*won't stay around to talk with anyone after church because she must hurry home
- \*wears unusually heavy clothing out of season (i.e. long sleeves in hot weather to cover bruises on her arms, etc.)
- \*often wears heavier than usual make-up to hide bruises or marks on her face.

Sharon tried several times to kill herself and failed. She later found out Ralph had also battered his first wife, June.\* After 20 years of daily abuse, June committed suicide.

Several years into the marriage, Ralph became even more hostile. "I was so terrified of him, I moved into the guest bedroom and had a deadbolt lock put on my door," Sharon said. "I really believed my life was in danger."

## A Common Story

Sharon's story is not uncommon. In the United States today, spouse abuse is on the rise. In 95 percent of the cases, the wife is the victim. One of two marriages has at least one episode of domestic violence per year. In one out of five marriages, violence is an ongoing situation. Police spend one-third of their time responding to domestic violence calls. Forty percent of all victims report beatings weekly or more frequently.

Our churches are filled each Sunday with women who are dealing with the pain of physical and emotional abuse, hiding bruises, and secretly crying inside for help and relief.

"The sad thing is that the body of Christ has not gotten involved in the treatment of domestic violence," states Paul Hegstrom, director,

Domestic Violence Project, Aurora, Colo. 1

## What Can The Church Do?

Domestic violence is a delicate issue, but the problem cannot be ignored. Unless someone intervenes and the violence is stopped, what starts out as a threat or kick or slap will ALWAYS escalate in intensity. In many cases, a woman's life is in danger. In fact, of women who are killed each year, 40 percent are killed by their husbands (or lovers).

What can the church do? The church can get involved. Congregations can take action and stop the abuse. How?

If you are a pastor or church staff worker:

1. Call your local domestic violence center and learn what to do if faced with spouse abuse in your church or community.

2. If couples come to you for marital counseling and you suspect abuse, don't counsel them together.

"They need separate counseling," states Michelle McAlpine, lead counselor at the Family Violence Center, Birmingham, Ala. "The abuse is his problem, not hers. He is totally responsible for his behavior because

(See ABUSE on page 5)

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# WMU annual meeting: HMB report, election, Mississippi volunteers

ATLANTA (BP) — An address by a former hostage in the American Embassy in Kuwait, the only full Home Mission Board report to be given during the Southern Baptist Convention and the election of a new national president will highlight the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting June 2-3.

The five sessions of the meeting will be held in the Ballroom of the Georgia World Congress Center beginning Sunday afternoon at 2:30. The Sunday evening session begins at 7 p.m. Monday sessions begin at 9:30 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Theme of the meeting is "Called to Mission."

Maurice Graham, a Southern Baptist missionary to Kuwait, will speak during the Sunday afternoon session. He was one of several Americans held hostage at the American Embassy after the Iraqi invasion last August. His release came on Dec. 9, the day Southern Baptists had been asked to pray specifically for Graham's release.

Larry Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board, will bring the full home missions report he usually gives to the entire Southern Baptist Convention, during the Monday evening session of the WMU meeting.

Normally a one-hour presentation

By Susan Todd

to the convention, the home missions report time this year has been reduced to 10 minutes to make room on the SBC schedule for an emphasis on spiritual awakening.

During the report, five home missionaries will talk about the work each is doing: Mickey Mayfield, Lawrenceville, Ga.; Larry Martin, Newton, Mass.; Patty Lane, Dallas; Herminio Rios, Duncan, Okla.; and Sheila Black, Charlotte, N.C.

Other features of the WMU meeting:

Volunteers Respond to God's Call is scheduled for Monday afternoon. Four

Mississippians who will be sharing their experiences on a mission trip to Peru are Ashley McCaleb, Baptist Women consultant, Mississippi WMU, Jackson; Vicki Heath, Jackson; Bobbie Foster, Prentiss; and Janet Murray, Jackson.

Foreign missions will be the emphasis of the first session of the annual meeting. Highlighting the work of the Southern Baptists around the world will be R. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president.

Describing what it is like to experience God's call will be people from four different walks of missions

life: Allison Lee, a teen-ager from Columbus, Ga.; Dixie Hunke of Fresno, Calif., a recent foreign missions appointee; Robert and Diana Clark, missionaries who have worked in the Philippines a short time; and Laura Frances Snow, a veteran missionary to Chile.

Clayton Gilbert of Alexander City, Ala., will bring the message during the Monday afternoon session. Gilbert is the father of Mary Anna Gilbert, the FMB journeyman teacher who was killed in a plane crash in China last October.

(See WMU on page 7)

The Second Front Page

## The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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### Southern Seminary trustees approve covenant agreement

By Pat Cole

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Seminary trustees approved April 8 a "covenant" agreement with faculty that will guide the seminary's efforts to fill faculty vacancies with "conservative evangelical scholars."

The covenant, approved by a 49-7 margin following more than two hours of debate, effectively will replace controversial new guidelines for faculty employment adopted last September by trustees at the Louisville, Ky., school. The six-page covenant was hammered out in a series of meetings over the past four months between two seven-member trustee and faculty ad hoc committees. The faculty approved the document March 28 by a vote of 38-5.

The covenant pledges the seminary will seek "balanced representation" on the faculty through "intentional employment of conservative evangelical scholars for future openings." Under the covenant's terms, the

seminary will hire only professors who "reflect a clear evangelical orientation" in their view of the Bible's authority and inspiration. The covenant contains a seven-paragraph statement on biblical authority which new faculty members and those seeking tenure must affirm.

In its statement on Scripture, the covenant maintains that divine inspiration is "guaranteed true and trustworthy utterances on all matters on which the biblical authors were moved to speak and write." It describes the Bible as "true and reliable in all the matters it addresses, whatever the subject matter." The Bible, it adds, serves as the "ultimate standard of authority for God's people, transcending both temporal and cultural contexts."

The covenant states it will remain an employment guideline until trustees "in consultation with the administration and faculty determine

that the seminary has achieved faculty balance."

Adoption of the covenant served to amend action taken last September which added the 1987 Southern Baptist Peace Committee Report as a guideline for employment, promotion, and tenure of all faculty. The action stipulated the entire report — "both findings and recommendations" — be used as a guideline in addition to existing academic personnel policies and the Abstract of Principles, the confessional statement that has governed the school since its founding as the convention's first seminary in 1859.

In the findings section, the Peace Committee report declared "most Southern Baptists believe" the Bible is true. People who say the Bible is true believe that "Adam and Eve were real persons," "named authors did indeed write the biblical books at

(See TRUSTEES on page 7)



Carter Dobbs of Calhoun City prepares a Filipino to have a tooth pulled. Dobbs cited the dental state of the Filipinos in general as "deplorable." (Photo by Lonnie Wilkey)

### Vols in Philippines doctor body and soul

By Lonnie Wilkey

NASHVILLE (BP) — A team of Southern Baptist health care volunteers has returned to the United States after two weeks in the Philippines dispensing medicine for both body and soul. The team was comprised of Baptists from Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arizona, and Korea. They were in the Philippines

under the umbrella of the Tennessee Baptist/Philippines partnership which began in 1989.

"Think of all the good things God has done for you since you were a baby," physician Bill Skinner of Nashville, told a young Filipino

(See PHILIPPINES on page 8)

### Postal rates dramatically affect Baptist news papers

NASHVILLE (BP) — The most recent second-class postal rate increase has seriously affected non-profit publications, including state Baptist newspapers.

The U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors approved the rate increase effective Feb. 3, 1991. The increase is about 22 to 25 percent, said Al Ogerton of U.S. Postal Services in Nashville.

While the cost of printing and other factors have increased with the cost of living, "... Postage has grossly increased and surpassed as the highest percentage expense of production," said Theo Sommerkamp, editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger, newsjournal of the Ohio Baptist Convention, who struggles to produce 24 issues yearly.

"We are watching it closely. We do

not know if we will have to take remedial action this year or not," continued Sommerkamp whose publication postage cost was increased by 25 percent, from \$2,800 to \$3,500 per week.

R.G. Puckett, editor of the Biblical Recorder, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, said, "This is grossly unfair. The postage increases (over the past few years) have been inconsistent in what has happened in the economy," explained Puckett. "The (postal) increases prove to be more than 1000 percent compared to the economy."

The Biblical Recorder, with a postage increase of \$1000 per week, raised subscription rates \$1 and skipped the first issue of April to help

recover from the budget crunch. The North Carolina paper is also receiving more state Cooperative Program assistance.

"Postal services could eventually price non-profit organizations out of business," said Presnall Wood, editor of the Baptist Standard, newsjournal of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the largest circulation Southern Baptist newspaper publication. "I'm not sure they (postal services) understand our constituency," Wood continued. He recalled a 50-year period for the Baptist Standard without one increase in subscription prices.

"It's a different philosophy now," he explained. The publication has had to resort to an increase in subscription

rates. The postal rate increase has elevated postage for the Texas paper 23 percent, which translates to a weekly average of \$25,000. About \$1 million will be paid for postal services this year by the Baptist Standard.

Jack Brymer, editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, said the rate change will increase his publication's mailing costs by 22 percent. "We anticipated the increase, but not the size of it," said Brymer.

While the postage increase has significantly affected most state Baptist newspapers, the effect may be a bit more dramatic for the Witness. In addition to raising subscription rates, Brymer may propose cutting two staff positions, due to increasing postage

and declining circulation.

When asked how this action might affect quality of the newsjournal and how it would relate to its readers, Brymer said, "It will hurt. Ultimately, with 20 percent less staff it will affect quality and quick response and coverage. Sure it will hurt."

The Baptist Record's postage increase was 23.5 percent; its cost went from \$6,500 per week to \$8,500 per week. The staff was decreased and there will probably have to be a subscription increase this year.

The rate hike increased postage costs for the Baptist and Reflector, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, 29 percent. "I don't want to cut issues or lose readers. People

(See POSTAGE on page 8)



# Prison: "biggest mission field in Mississippi"

## Ackerman couple use Bible courses to improve inmates' reading skills

By Anne W. McWilliams

More than 75 percent of adults held in Mississippi prisons are non-readers, and eight out of 10 juvenile offenders have trouble reading. So states a pamphlet published by J-PAR, the Jackson Program for Adult Readers.

A Baptist couple from Ackerman has been chipping away at those figures. They're using a Bible correspondence course to improve the reading skills of prisoners at Parchman, and at the same time to teach them Christian truths. Jean and Leon Bruce call this ministry *The Only Way*.

Several hundred of the 6,000 prisoners have enrolled in the past five or six years, since the courses were begun in the mid-80s. Some have taken all 19 basic and 32 advanced courses. Jean, who began by grading all the papers herself, has kept a folder on every enrollee. "I have seen many of them, as they studied, progress from first grade to high school reading level," she said.

Good News Bibles are used as texts, as they are easier to read than the King James. Secretaries at the Bruce's Ackerman business, Choctaw Mechanical and Electrical, now help check the stacks of papers.

Jean was converted during the Billy Graham Crusade in Jackson in 1975. With little church background before then, (see "Faces and Places," below) she "just soaked up Bible studies" afterward. Consequently, she saw the need for such studies, and so began offering them later by correspondence to prisoners.

The Bruces, who got into the prison ministry after their marriage in 1979, started out helping another couple, Edsel and Jolene Burney, with Christmas parties and monthly services at Parchman. Leon and Edsel would work with men inmates, and Jean and Jolene would work with the women. After the Burneys moved to Tupelo, the Bruces kept going, at their own expense. Once, when Leon was low on funds for the work, a woman flagged him down and handed him a check from the Ackerman WMU which was 11¢ over what they needed at the time.

In their monthly witnessing visits to Parchman, the two have recorded 200 to 300 professions of faith per year. "I go to a place where the guys bunk," he said. "I tell them, 'No organization sent me here. Nobody pays me to come. I drive my own car here to share that Jesus loves you and cares about you, and that I care about you. I just want to borrow one thing from you — an hour of your time.'"

Both Jean and Leon are graduates of Paige Cothren's course in directive counseling.

Chaplain Ronald Padgett, who is on the penitentiary staff, said, "The Bruces have an effective ministry."

Are the conversions real? Leon said, "We don't judge. We leave that up to God." He admitted, "There are going to be failures. We've been used; we've been lied to. People have no doubt made false professions of faith to try to get something they wanted. But if one such deci-

sion a year is real, is it not worth it?" Continuing, he described his first visit with the inmates: "I could relate to those men. I thought, 'There but for the grace of God go I.'"

He continued, "I see Parchman as the biggest mission field in Mississippi. If only mission-minded Baptists could start a halfway house for prisoners, to help these guys get a new start! There's a tremendous need for it. Some have no family, or no family support, when they get out. And after living in such a regimented way, some can no longer even make minor decisions on their own."

The Bruces would love to have help with their ministry, they say, and would be willing to train others, either to work with them in what they are doing or to start other ministries of their own.

"I know the call to go to Parchman is not for everyone," he said. "Often people have the attitude toward prisoners that they did about lepers in Jesus' day — 'Unclean! Unclean!' All of us are saved by grace. We made mistakes. The prisoners did, too. Their sins might not be any worse in God's eyes than ours. And we are called to minister to all, no matter the race or status."

One way the Bruces need help is with the Bible correspondence courses and the counseling that accompanies it. Jean would be willing to let anyone choose from her stacks of folders on prisoners, to select persons to work with. Because of the mail order scam, many are leery of writing to prisoners. "If anybody wants to route letters indirectly through us, we can arrange that," they say. Their address is P. O. Box 551, Ackerman, MS 39735.

As for speaking engagements about their ministry, they say, "We will go anywhere God opens the door."

They insist that this is not hard to get involved in — that anyone can. In the beginning, Leon was not sure of his success. During one seemingly "dry spell," he prayed, "Lord, if I should quit now, let me know. Show me today what you want me to do." That day, 28 men made professions of faith.

"In this," he gathered, "the Lord said to me: 'Did you think you were so smart you could win them yourself? You only spoke 10 minutes. Your ability has nothing to do with their being saved. All I require of you is that you be faithful to what you are called to do, and leave the success up to me.'"

John Brock, pastor of the Ackerman Church, has at times accompanied the Bruces to Parchman, and has preached there. He said of Leon and Jean: "I don't know anyone who tries harder to live God's way for them."

The Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has jail and prison ministry as an assignment. According to J. Ray Grissett, director, they will have an article in the next issue of the BAPTIST RECORD sharing some plans and dreams for a statewide ministry.



## "In all things give thanks" — even for stuck zippers

Jean and Leon Bruce, in their prison ministry, *The Only Way*, have not neglected witnessing to the guards at Parchman, as well as the prisoners.

One night, as the two were arriving at the penitentiary to hold a service, Jean made a restroom stop, and the zipper of her jumpsuit stuck. She sent someone to fetch Leon, to see if he could unstuck the zipper. He couldn't.

"Now look what you've done!" he growled. "You've ruined our plans for tonight!" She cried. He drove to a store to buy some safety pins.

When he returned, he found Jean, her coat on and buttoned, talking with two guards, a man and a woman, explaining to them the plan of salvation.

Leon sensed that the man was near a decision, though timid about expressing his feelings before others. "Would you like to go for a walk?" he asked him. They did, and along the way, the guard knelt and prayed, asking forgiveness for his sins and Jesus to become his savior.

Meanwhile, inside, the female guard with Jean made a similar decision. "So," the Bruces say, "the Lord can even use stuck zippers."

## Prisoner smiles and winks; chamber fills with gas

Ronald Padgett, a chaplain at Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, tells a story about a man who was executed there in the gas chamber.

This man had been in prison for seven years. He had made a profession of faith in Christ while there, and had been a professing Christian for four or five years, at the time of his death.

"I felt good about his testimony," said Padgett, "and I believe that it was real. It showed that it is never too late in a lifetime to find God. There's always hope."

This prisoner had grown up in a Baptist family, a church-going family; he had attended church as a child. With a group, he had robbed a store, and while there had killed a man. "He didn't deny he killed the man," Padgett said, "but he said he did not know why he did it. Somehow he found himself holding the gun and afterward always said, 'Evil made me do it.' He indicated remorse for the pain he had caused his own family and that of the victim's family."

The day of the execution, the prisoner was fastened into the gas chamber. Padgett stepped inside with him and read to him the 23rd Psalm. Then he bent over and hugged the man as best he could and said, "I love you. I'll see you over there." The man smiled and winked. Padgett stepped outside, and the door was shut.

Outside the chamber, quite a few people, staff and others, had been watching. One man on the prison staff was so impressed that he later called Padgett to his office and asked, "What do you say to a man who knows he's going to die, to make him smile like that?"

Even in death, it had not been too late for the prisoner to give a powerful witness. "Even in death," said the chaplain, "we have power to testify of Jesus and of hope."



## Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



## A love story

a model and as an actress. Also she had been very successful in sales, life insurance in Texas and real estate in (See BRUCES on page 7)



Leon and Jean Bruce.

Jean and Leon Bruce minister in their "spare time" to prisoners at Parchman, as described in the above account. Their personal story is a remarkable one. "We are both examples of what Christ can do if we let him," said Jean. "We are a long way from our destination (Romans 8:29), but I am determined to get there by the grace of God."

Leon first met Jean Turner in September, 1976, in Clarksdale, as she was witnessing, sharing Jesus Christ, four months after the death of her teenage daughter, a suicide. When they met, each of them had been divorced. Jean recalls, "I saw a man who desperately needed Jesus. He shot pool and gambled and drank. He was not someone I would think of romantically at that time. He will tell you he was under the bottom looking up."

Jean, born in Maine, had worked as



## ABUSE

From page 2

he chooses to be abusive. She is not responsible for his behavior. It puts her at greater risk if a pastor counsels them together. A woman who is battered does not have freedom of speech."

3. Contact the domestic violence center in your area and request a seminar for your church. Educate your church staff, as well as your congregation, about spouse abuse.

If you are a church member and suspect abuse:

1. Watch for warning signs of abuse (see sidebar on page 2) and alert your pastor or church counselor.

2. If you are a friend of the victim, approach her privately — definitely not in the presence of her husband. Ask some questions that will help her open up to you, such as: "Is everything okay at home?" "Is someone hurting you?" (If her answer is yes, ask: "Is your husband hurting you?")

3. Don't judge or criticize her, but

listen with understanding, and support her with your prayers, presence, and some concrete suggestions about what she can do.

4. Put her in touch with someone who can help her, the pastor, church counselor, the National Domestic Violence hotline (1-800-333-SAFE), and/or your local domestic violence center.

5. If she and her children need a safe place to go, take them to a domestic violence safety center or to a family member or friend who lives in another county or state. (Do not take her into your own home if her husband might anticipate her staying with you. Your own life could be endangered.) If possible, arrange for the church to provide her with travel and expense money.

If You Are A Victim of Abuse . . .

Seek help immediately. It is NEVER all right for someone to hurt you. Know that authorities consider physical abuse to be criminal behavior. Here are steps you can take:

1. If you've been hurt, or are afraid of being hurt, talk to your pastor or a close friend. Let them help you.

2. Make yourself and your children safe. Leave the situation and go to a place of safety. Do not tell the abuser where you are staying.

If You Are the Abuser . . .

1. If you are causing your spouse or children physical or emotional pain in any way, consider yourself an abuser.

2. Move out of the family home until you can get help. Your family's safety is YOUR responsibility.

3. Enroll immediately into a program specifically designed to work with men who use violent behavior.

"Once abusive men learn what abuse is and why they abuse, they can learn to change their behavior," states pastoral counselor John Richardson. 2

\*\*\*

Sharon's turning point came after a 3 a.m. unusually tense confrontation with Ralph. Fearing for her life, she called an attorney. With his help, Sharon left the abusive situation. She also stopped going to Ralph's church. Not long after, a friend invited her to

a community church and Sharon became a member.

"That's what I needed most," Sharon remembers, "a friend who reached out to me with understanding. I will be eternally grateful to her."

Through the church during the last three years, Sharon has found the support, encouragement, and emotional healing she desperately needed.

"My Sunday School class members have called me and made me feel like a part of the church. They have listened to me and made me feel that someone really does care. When I had minor surgery early one morning, my pastor greeted me at the hospital when I arrived. I feel surrounded by the church's love and prayers — so completely at home here. It's like a brand new life."

\*Name changes to insure privacy.

Footnotes:

1. Hegstrom, Paul. "Domestic Violence: Enemy of the American Family." Speech to the 1990 Christian Life Commission, Birmingham, AL, (March 1990.)

2. "Help Me to Not Get Angry," The Birmingham News, Birmingham, AL: Sunday, May 27, 1990, p. 1E.

Denise George is a freelance writer and author of eight books. Her latest book is BECOMING TENDER IN A TOUGH WORLD. She is married to Timothy George, dean of Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, Ala. They have two school-aged children. They are members of Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham.

## David Grant dies

David R. Grant, 71, pastor emeritus of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, died of cancer April 11 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.



Grant

Services were 1 p.m. April 15 at Broadmoor Church with burial in Lakewood Cemetery.

Grant, a Plantersville native, led Broadmoor Church almost 27 years before retiring in

1984. Under his leadership, the congregation grew from about 800 to about 4,000. He died one month before his 50th anniversary in the ministry.

He attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. He received a master's degree in community counseling from Mississippi College and a special-in-education degree from Mississippi State University. He is a graduate of Southern Seminary and received a doctorate in ministry from New Orleans Seminary. He also received an honorary doctorate from Mississippi College.

Before going to Broadmoor Church, Grant had been a minister at Beech Grove Church in Port Gibson, Scobey Church in Scobey, Tillatoba Church in Tillatoba, Wayside Church in Scobey, Lick Branch Church in Deputy, Ind., Burgin Church in Burgin, Ky., and Drew Church in Drew. After retiring, he pastored Star Church in Star.

He was past president of the Jackson Ministerial Association and was a past member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and executive committee. He was president of the convention from 1972-1974.

In 1973 Grant was elected general chairman of the "Restore Gulfshore" fund-raising campaign, which sought to raise \$1,250,000 in two years. Gulfshore Assembly was destroyed by Hurricane Camille in August 1969.

He was the author of the book *The Preacher and His People*.

Survivors include: wife, Lucille; daughters, Sarah Elizabeth Perkins of Cabestany, France, and Olivia Mahon of Birmingham; son, David R. Grant Jr. of Hendersonville, Ky.; sister, Olivia Grant Polk of Plantersville; brothers, John Abner Grant of Poplarville and Joe Frierson Grant of Fort Worth, Texas; and eight grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Broadmoor Baptist Church or Lottie Moon Foreign Mission Offering.

## Seminary training available now at Mississippi College

By Guy Henderson

Can you attend seminary without having to be on the actual campus? Many students across the South could answer yes, and 69 of them attend evening classes at Mississippi College.

The New Orleans Seminary Extension under the guidance of Carl Hudson offers classes for the master of

divinity degree and offers the associate degree at Clarke College. Students are actually enrolled at New Orleans Seminary but elect to attend classes at various centers around the South.

Bill Baker, pastor at First Church, Clinton, teaches Introduction to Christian Proclamation on Monday evening for four hours. Billy K. Smith of New Orleans teaches Introduction to the Old Testament. Baker said it was a valuable experience for him in learning as well as meeting some of the finest students anywhere.

The students come from all areas and all walks of life. Some are right out of college, and others are older experienced pastors. Eighty percent are pastoring a church. John Harp, pastor of Pinecrest Church in Linden, Texas, drives almost 300 miles one way to attend the Monday night class. Harp said he missed the class at seminary in New Orleans and this will enable him to graduate in May.

Artie Grimes drives from Mobile; others drive from north Mississippi. All of them declared it was worth it. "The instructions we get are excellent and the fellowship is superb."

Hudson invites other students to contact the New Orleans Seminary Extension and continue work on their seminary degrees, or just for refresher courses. Pastors and lay leaders are invited to participate.



John Harp



Baker's NOBTS class in Clinton.

## TO SOME PEOPLE, LIFE IS A DARK ROOM WITH NO WINDOWS

In a life of darkness, one small distant light can mean a lot—a glimmer of hope. Feelings of fear, anxiety, and loneliness disappear in the light of Christ.

Your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will provide a glimmer of hope to lost people living in darkness. Home missionaries turn your gifts into hope by taking the love of Christ to a waiting America.

If Easter passed before you gave to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, consider giving now. If you have given, consider giving again.

Thank you for being a glimmer of hope in the darkness.

MISSIONS: GIVING PEOPLE HOPE

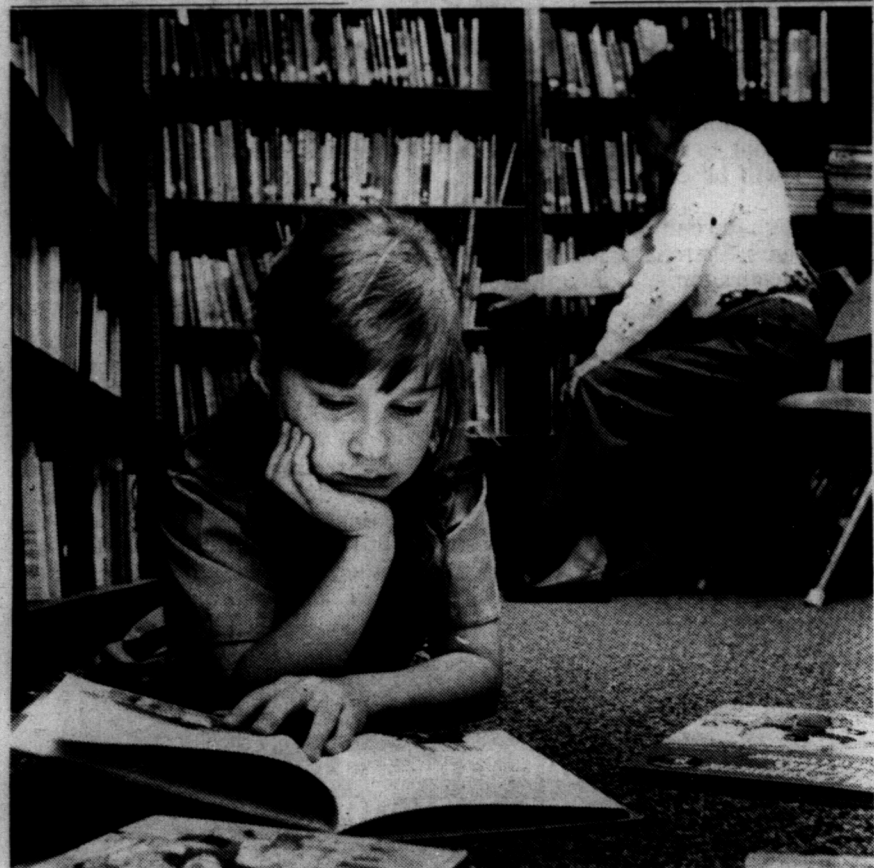
# Hope

HMB

HOME MISSION BOARD

A Southern Baptist Convention program, coordinated by the Home Mission Board, and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.





## Media libraries focus on missions

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Abigail Sutton, a second grade student, and Jane Brown, a Sunday School teacher, regularly use materials in the media library of First Southern Church of Salt Lake City, Utah. Both say they read about biblical personalities — Abigail in biographies and Jane in commentaries — as well as materials about Southern Baptist missions. This year's church media library emphasis, observed in many churches during April, is "Media Libraries . . . Focus on Missions." (Photo by Jim Veneman)

## Percy Ray, camp founder dies

Percy Ray, pastor of Myrtle Church for 55 years, died in his sleep at his home April 11, in Myrtle, Miss. Following a massive stroke in December, 1988, he had spent six months in a Memphis hospital and then had returned home to be cared for around the clock by four attendants.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. April 14 at Myrtle Church. Burial was in Chalybeate Cemetery, Tippah County.

Ray was one of 17 Southern Baptist evangelists honored during the SBC Pastors' Conference in New Orleans last June. He had been in evangelism for more than 50 years, and credited Joe Odle, late editor of the Baptist Record, with leading him to the Lord.

His ministry centered around Camp Zion, which he built at Myrtle, to fulfill his dream for a place "to which people could come for preaching and worshipping," and which was a "miracle of God in construction and operation." The Camp Zion Tabernacle seats 2,500, and somehow Ray provided food and lodging for those in attendance at conferences. Ray traveled all over the United States to lead evangelistic crusades, and thousands of people

from many places attended Camp Zion each year.

Ray was born May 21, 1910, near Chalybeate, Miss. He received a degree from Union University, Jackson, Tenn. Later, he received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Immanuel Baptist College, Atlanta, and another from Union University.

A bachelor, he moved to Union County in 1935, where he served as pastor of Myrtle, Glenfield, Hurricane, and Wallerville churches.

In 1940, he began work part-time for the Home Mission Board, SBC, to plant churches and engage in other evangelistic efforts. On the fifth Sunday of October, 1943, he dedicated seven churches in the open country, free of debt. R. G. Lee preached the seven sermons, in the seven churches.

In December, 1985, Myrtle Church celebrated Ray's 50 years with them with a birthday party, and presented him a white Cadillac. At the time, he had been hospitalized with a stroke, but was allowed to return home for the party. He recovered partially from the first stroke and continued to serve as pastor, with the aid of helpers.

## HMB to offer training in multihousing ministries

ATLANTA — Specialized training for anyone interested in multihousing ministries will be offered by the Home Mission Board, SBC, at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Conference Centers this summer.

Multihousing ministry has been called the "new frontier" for evangelism and church starting because about 30 percent of the U.S. population lives in multihousing units. The Christian community reaches about 4 percent of multihousing residents, compared to reaching nearly 50 percent of single family housing residents.

Dates for Ridgecrest, N.C., are June 29-July 5. Program leaders will be

David Bunch, assistant vice president of the HMB's extension section, Mike Eller, multihousing director for the North Carolina Convention, and John Stovall, multihousing coordinator with New Orleans Association.

Dates for Glorieta, N.M., are July 20-26. Program leaders will be Bunch, Don Heath of Eastwood Church, Tulsa, Okla., and Barbara Oden, multihousing coordinator with Union Association in Houston.

Pre-registration information is available by writing Bunch at Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St., NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601 or calling the HMB's toll-free customer service number: 1-800-634-2462.

# Itawamba Association — 100% for BSU!

The Itawamba Association has made history by becoming the only Baptist Association in the SBC to support its local Baptist Student Union 100 percent. There are 16 churches in the Itawamba Association. All 16 now have the Baptist Student Union at Itawamba Community College in their budgets. Not only that, the Itawamba Association itself has the BSU in its associational budget.

Wayne Vandiver, the ICC BSU director, called the state BSU directors in all the state conventions to see if anyone else had this kind of support. The answer was the same everytime: "No, but we wish we did!"

The Itawamba Association is made up of the following churches: Antioch; Bethany; Dorsey; Evergreen; Fairview; First, Fulton; Kirkville; Lakeland; Morning View; New Home; Poplar Springs; Providence; Riverhill; Salem; Shiloh; and Trinity. The association does not have a director of missions right now, but one is being sought on a part-time basis.

Vandiver came to the Baptist Student Union at Itawamba in August, 1984, as the first full-time director employed there by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Dur-

ing that year, 43 churches from the five-county area that makes up the ICC school district contributed to the BSU budget. Eleven of those were from the Itawamba Association. Since that time, 32 other churches have begun to support the ICC BSU; five of which are from the Itawamba Association. One of the churches, Antioch Church, just joined the association last year. One of the first things it did upon being accepted into the association was to begin to support the ICC BSU.

"The Itawamba Community College BSU has been blessed by the Lord in some unusual ways in the past few years," said Vandiver. "One of those blessings has been the generosity of the association. The Itawamba Baptist Association will always be remembered as the first association in the SBC to be used 100 percent in reaching out to college students through its local BSU. Any BSU director will readily agree that to have every church in an association plus the association itself supporting the BSU is very unusual. May the Itawamba Baptist Association never be usual again!"

## Homer P. McDonald, *God's power for your good works . . .* retired pastor, dies

Homer P. McDonald, 81, a retired Baptist minister, died of heart failure April 8 at Carthage Health Care Center.

Services were April 10 at Wilcox Funeral Home with burial in McDonald Cemetery.

McDonald, a Leake County native, was a member of Cash Church. He served numerous churches in Leake, Scott, Jasper, and Montgomery counties for more than 52 years.

He helped establish McDonald Church near Good Hope. The church is shared by Baptist and Methodist congregations. His Bible was buried in the church's foundation.

"We had to put in new pillars and found his Bible but it was rotten," said his brother, Joy McDonald of Lena.

Other survivors include: wife, Ruby Pearl; son, Purvis McDonald of Lena; stepdaughters, Betty Rogers and Frances Maze, both of Lena; stepsons, Tommy Banks of Collive, Wash., and James Rasco of Yakima, Wash.; sisters, Edrie Crawford of Carthage and Cora Lee Jeffcoats of Lena; and two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

## Carey hosts philosophy meet

The annual meeting of the Mississippi Philosophy Association was held at William Carey on the Coast on April 6. Bennie Crockett, president of the Association for 1990-91, presented an address entitled "A Critique of the Divine Command Theory of Ethics." Crockett also was elected to serve a second term as president of the Association for 1991-92.

## Ebenezer Church celebrates 185th homecoming

Ebenezer Church in Amite County will celebrate its 185th homecoming, May 5.

Organized in 1806, the church is the oldest organized Baptist church in Mississippi. It is also burial site of Richard Curtis, first Baptist preacher in Mississippi.

Celebration will begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., followed by worship services and a picnic lunch on the grounds. There will be special music in the afternoon. A ceremony at 2:30 will dedicate a historical marker placed by the Mississippi Society of Colonial Dames.

The public is invited; special invitation is extended to descendants of Ebenezer's founding families.

Alvin Hall is pastor.

Paul wrote, "I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ . . . may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation . . . and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead" (Eph. 1:17-20 NIV).



Green

Isn't it awesome that when God calls there is available to those who believe a power like that exerted in raising Christ from the dead? In the knowledge of man there is no greater power.

Consider also these words of Paul: "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Eph. 2:10 NIV).

Each of us who knows Christ has been created to do certain works. Each has unique background, talent, and sphere of influence. The work may be so simple, but important, as speaking to an acquaintance or a friend or doing a mundane task. A work may be an extended period of exhaustive service. Each work is important in God's plan.

Often we feel insecure and doubtful about an inner urging such as to undertake a new task which may require a significant commitment or to pick up the telephone to call someone.

Recently, I awoke early with an immediate, clear thought: "Call Joe at 10 a.m." With trepidation and doubt, I called at ten. Joe was sitting at the telephone needing to talk about a serious problem which was beyond simple human solution. The power of the Holy Spirit is now working with him toward a solution.

What are the "good works which God prepared in advance" for you to do? Do you continually ask for wisdom and revelation to identify and begin those works? God through the Holy Spirit can use his incomparably great power to amplify beyond your greatest expectations your efforts for Christ in advancing his kingdom.

Green lives in Ruth; he is deacon and Sunday School director, Shady Grove Church, Lincoln County.

## Letters to the editor

### Put space to better use

Editor:

I have been impressed by your leadership of *The Baptist Record*. The format, news articles, and writing is very much improved over that of past years.

The last few issues have concerned me, however, because of the favorable reporting of the activities of the "Baptist Fellowship," "The Southern Baptist Alliance," the "Baptist Joint Committee," and related anti Southern Baptist Convention groups. Surely the scarce space in the *Record* could be put to better use by reporting on state and SBC matters. Better to leave blank space than for an SBC/Mississippi Baptist Convention agency to give publicity to those who wish us no good.

I understand that the Baptist Joint Committee is now trying to stop prayer at high school graduation exercises using the SBC Cooperative Program gifts the way it did to support use of drugs during "church" services. These devil-enhanced activities should be given wide publicity and all SBC funds deleted from the BJC.

Walter J. Deal  
Biloxi, MS

### Thanks from abroad

Editor:

Thank you — Thank you — Thank you — for sending us the *Baptist Record* by air mail. We received three of them the same day. It was like hearing from a long lost friend. I had never before given much thought to what becomes important to missionaries after they are appointed and are on the field. I have not researched this with others, but as far as Martha and me, I can tell you — that news from home in any form becomes very important. The work you are sent out to do is always top priority, but I am talking about the little things that all of a sudden cause a lump to come in your throat or a tear to your eye — because you have received a letter from a long awaited friend whom you thought would write more often, or a telephone call that lets you hear the sweet melody of a loved friend or family member's voice, or a *Baptist Record* that lets you catch up on what is happening in your state.

Ken and Martha Cooper  
Baptist Representatives to  
MENA  
P. O. Box 709  
APO New York, NY 09254

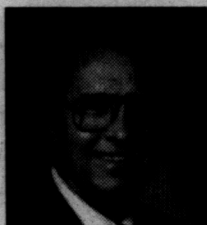


# HOUSETOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

April 18, 1991

HouseTops is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



## Marketplace Ministers

by Paul Harrell, Director, Brotherhood Department, MBCB

"Take from a man his wealth and you hinder him; take from him his purpose and you slow him down. But take from man his hope and you stop him. He can go on without wealth, and even without purpose, for a while. But he will not go on without hope." \* The marketplaces of our world are filled with people without hope.

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians 1:18 speaks of this hope. "I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you." Also, in Colossians 1:27, "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

When a person experiences salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ he is called into full time Christian servanthood. That is his vocation. When one is sensitive and responsive to the leadership of our Lord, He will lead that person into an occupation where by he can live out this commitment to Christian servanthood. God has called us; He has gifted us for ministry in our marketplace. Where does 99 percent of the church spend 60 percent of its time and energy? At their places of work and with family. If the church is to impact our world of today, it must be done in the marketplace. It is the average believer who has many non-believing friends in the workplace. It is at their jobs that the good news can be lived, tested, discussed and offered to the largest number of people. Here the gospel is available in forms that cannot be restricted by hostile governments and does not need to be translated because workers already share common language.

To be effective marketplace ministers we must know that the church is all of God's people in all parts of the world Monday through Saturday as well as on Sunday. It is a movement of people living out holiness and obedience in all of life. We are all called to be God's people in all of life. Witnessing is the privilege and task for all God's people. All of us are evidence that there is good news in Jesus Christ, "the hope of glory."

*This series of articles deals with how to become a Christian or how to share your faith. Articles by others will follow in future issues of HOUSETOPS.*

\*Neil Strait



## LAD/ CRUSADER DAY

Registrations  
Must Be In by April 23  
Cost: \$5

*Central Hills Baptist Retreat*  
9 A.M. - 3 P.M.  
April 27, 1991

Contact the Brotherhood Department at 968-3800 for details.

## VBS DIRECTORS AND WORKERS

by Larry Salter

What an exciting challenge that lies before us as we enter 1991. It is a BREAKTHROUGH challenge.

As you know, Vacation Bible School still holds the greatest potential for helping your church identify and enroll more new people in Sunday School, and for leading unsaved children, youth, and adults to Christ.

As you begin planning for 1991 Vacation Bible School in your church, I want to encourage you to take up this challenge.

The theme for Vacation Bible School in 1991 is "Celebrate Jesus."

With various curriculum units focusing on Jesus with age-appropriate activities to involve persons, VBS pupils who are already church members can gain greater insight and appreciation to Jesus, God's Son.

As you plan and promote your 1991 Bible school, keep in mind all of the evangelistic purposes and outcomes.

Hopefully the workers from your churches should be enlisted with the understanding that they will attend the Associational VBS Clinic. The value in the Clinic comes in receiving an overview interpretation of Vaca-

tion Bible School curriculum materials from a leader who has been trained in a State VBS Clinic to lead this training event.

Workers will learn about new resources and new features in the curriculum materials for the age group they will be teaching. In addition, they will gain insight from one another.

Promote the clinic throughout your church as necessary training for all VBS workers. Also remind all your workers to bring their curriculum materials to the Associational Clinic.

## Last Call For Associational WMU Officers . . . to attend the

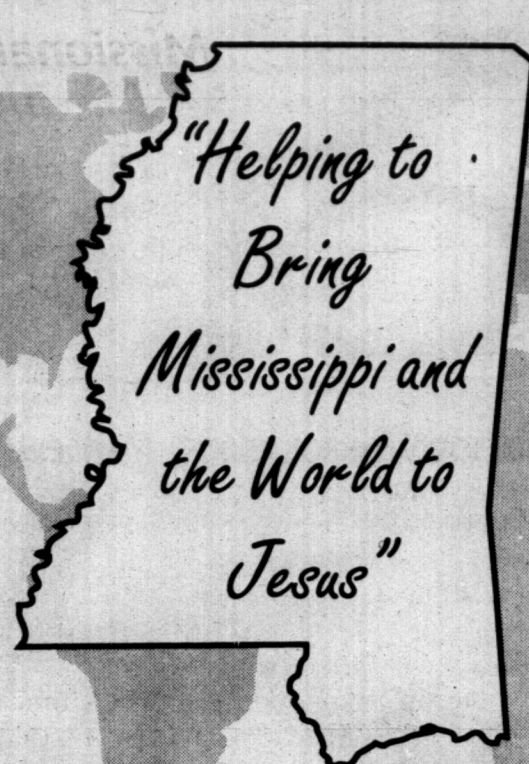
*Associational Officers Training Retreat at Garawya*

Choose Either April 25-26 or April 26-27

Call WMU office at 968-3800 for registration information







*Through the Cooperative Program*

## How Can My Church Cooperative Program

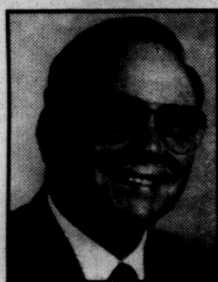
Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, was asked recently in a meeting with state stewardship directors, "What can we do to help you win the world to Jesus?"

"Send more money!" was his reply.

Churches can best respond to Cooperative Program Day by giving more money. Before that happens several other things will probably have to be done. Let's consider how to respond appropriately.

•**CELEBRATE** the strength which Baptists have discovered by working together cooperatively. There is nothing magic in Baptist programming. The magic is that 37,000 churches can do far more together than any one church can do alone. Cooperative Program Day is an opportunity to thank God that he allows us the wisdom and graciousness to cooperate with each other in his kingdom's work.

•**LEARN** more about the Cooperative Program and what is accomplished each year through its ministries. Information is



**BILL CAUSEY**  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR-TREASURER  
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST  
CONVENTION BOARD

It is my prayer that the work of your Mississippi Baptist Convention Board be consistent with the mission ideals of the Cooperative Program. Newly established priority goals of the Convention Board staff are:

- to bear an authentic witness to every person in Mississippi;
- to involve every person in a Bible study in his own social context;
- and to enlist and equip every church member for service to our Lord.

For church members to know of these objectives and strongly support them through the Cooperative Program is step one in "Helping to Bring Mississippi and the World to Jesus."

Supportive of reaching these biblical objectives is the vital and continuing ministry which our churches have through the Cooperative Program. Our budget design does and will reflect these same mission and ministry objectives for they reflect what God has called his people to do.

To focus the enormous number of denominational tasks is a monumental undertaking, but we believe that the results will be worth it. We intend to waste neither money, nor time, nor personnel doing what is unimportant or not on target in God's work. When a magnifying glass is used to start a fire using the sun's rays, it is not creating more sunlight. It is only focusing what is already there. We hope to start a spiritual fire the same way; not creating new programs, but intensely focusing what God has given Southern Baptist churches in Mississippi.

## Where Do Cooperative Program Dollars Go?

When church members place their offering envelope in the plate or when church treasurers mail Cooperative Program checks to Jackson the same questions arise. Where does that money go? And what is being accomplished with it? The Cooperative Program gifts are spent in the areas of Missions, Christian Education, Benevolence, and Church Development. Consider some of the accomplishments.

**MISSIONS.** Missionaries are at work around the world. Almost 4,000 Foreign Missionaries in more than 100 countries baptize over 500 persons a day. 3,800 Home Missionaries work through cooperative agreements with every state Baptist Convention and in all 50 states. Mississippi assists 17 home missionaries serving right in our own back yard. 16,183 people were baptized in our state last year, a 10 percent increase over 1989. Through the coordination of the Brotherhood and WMU, 5,100 Mississippi missions volunteers completed over 300 mission projects last year in 43 states and 27 foreign countries. 65 student missionaries from the 34 Mississippi BSU Centers spent the summer in 26 states and three foreign countries. Twelve college students also participated in an historic first mission project in Leningrad, Russia.

**EDUCATION.** One of every five seminary students in the United States is attending a Southern Baptist seminary. Mississippi Baptists assisted more than 300 seminary students and almost 400 college students with scholarship funding last year. Over 6,500 students are enrolled in the four Baptist colleges in our state.

**BENEVOLENCE.** For nearly 80 years, Mississippi Baptists have been considered leaders in healthcare for our state. The Baptist Medical Center ministered to more

than 26,000 patients last year, including many with addictions through the Chemical Dependency Unit. The Children's Village provides care for more than 500 abused children in six campuses across the state. Attempts to legalize gambling through the establishment of a state lottery were fought off by the Christian Action Commission. Your gifts through the Cooperative Program have influence in the medical, social, and governmental sectors of our state-wide community.

**CHURCH DEVELOPMENT.** Strong churches are the foundation for building the kingdom of God. Working out of the Baptist Building, over 50 professional consultants are available to assist the 2,000 churches in Mississippi. Church members are trained through Sunday School workshops, state Bible drills, the Evangelism Conference, and hundreds of other leadership seminars. Cooperative Program gifts are reinvested in strengthening churches through the efforts of these state missionaries.

**DOES IT MATTER** that my church gives generously, even sacrificially? Do my Cooperative Program gifts really make any difference? Take a look at the ministerial student, struggling to answer God's call to lead one of our churches, but encouraged by the assistance of the Board of Ministerial Education. Focus on the terminated pastor, receiving financial assistance and a house of refuge through the Church-Minister Relations program. From persons like these, and from those of us who promote the Cooperative Program, please accept our thanks. Jesus says: "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, My brethren, you did it to Me."

# COOPERATIVE PROG



# Church Respond to Program Day?

asked available from the Stewardship Department. Call 968-3800.

What

- PRAY more for those who are supported by and involved in the work of cooperative missions. Pray for God to give your church missionary vision and zeal.
- IMPROVE your church budget planning process. Churches cannot afford to give what they do not have. However, many churches fail to do an adequate job of budget planning and promotion. Several choices of budget development resources are available to meet the needs of specific congregations and to grow Christian stewards. Call the Stewardship Department for more information.
- INCREASE Cooperative Program giving. The natural time to increase giving is when your church plans its budget. Compute the percentage of gifts which your church currently gives through the Cooperative Program. Adopt a long range plan to increase your percentage of giving each year until you reach the desired level. Together we can change the world.

"I'M THE NEW CONSULTANT FROM THE STATE STEWARDSHIP OFFICE—I'M CERTAIN THE DEACONS WANT TO RAISE THE CHURCH'S PERCENTAGE TO THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM! RIGHT, BOYS?"



## Mississippi Missionaries Speak Out for the Cooperative Program

A new prayer guide features stories about these and other missionaries. Ask for **Missionaries of the Month**.

### MAJOR McDANIEL

Taejon, Korea

Hometown: Clinton, Mississippi



The Cooperative Program means education to Major McDaniel. He speaks with pride of two Koreans whom he has guided through Southern Baptist schools. Lee Mee Sook and Lee Sok Chul graduated from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, respectively. Both now serve churches back home in Korea. The Cooperative Program is smart around the world.



### PENNY STACY

Cascavel, Brazil

Hometown: Pontotoc, Mississippi

The Cooperative Program means love to Penny Stacy. She tells the story of Patricia, a young girl with Catholic background, who often waited on the steps for the church doors to open. When Patricia's mother objected to her conversion and baptism she said: "Mother, when I go to this church, I know they love me!" Our love travels through the Cooperative Program around the world.

### EDDIE JONES

Greenville, Mississippi

Hometown: Bassfield, Mississippi



The Cooperative Program means commitment to Eddie Jones. Since 1987, Eddie has been determined to have a black Southern Baptist church in Greenville. Victory Temple now has 120 members. Folks in other states have asked him to move to their communities, but he has stuck with his original dream. The Cooperative Program requires commitment in Mississippi and around the world.

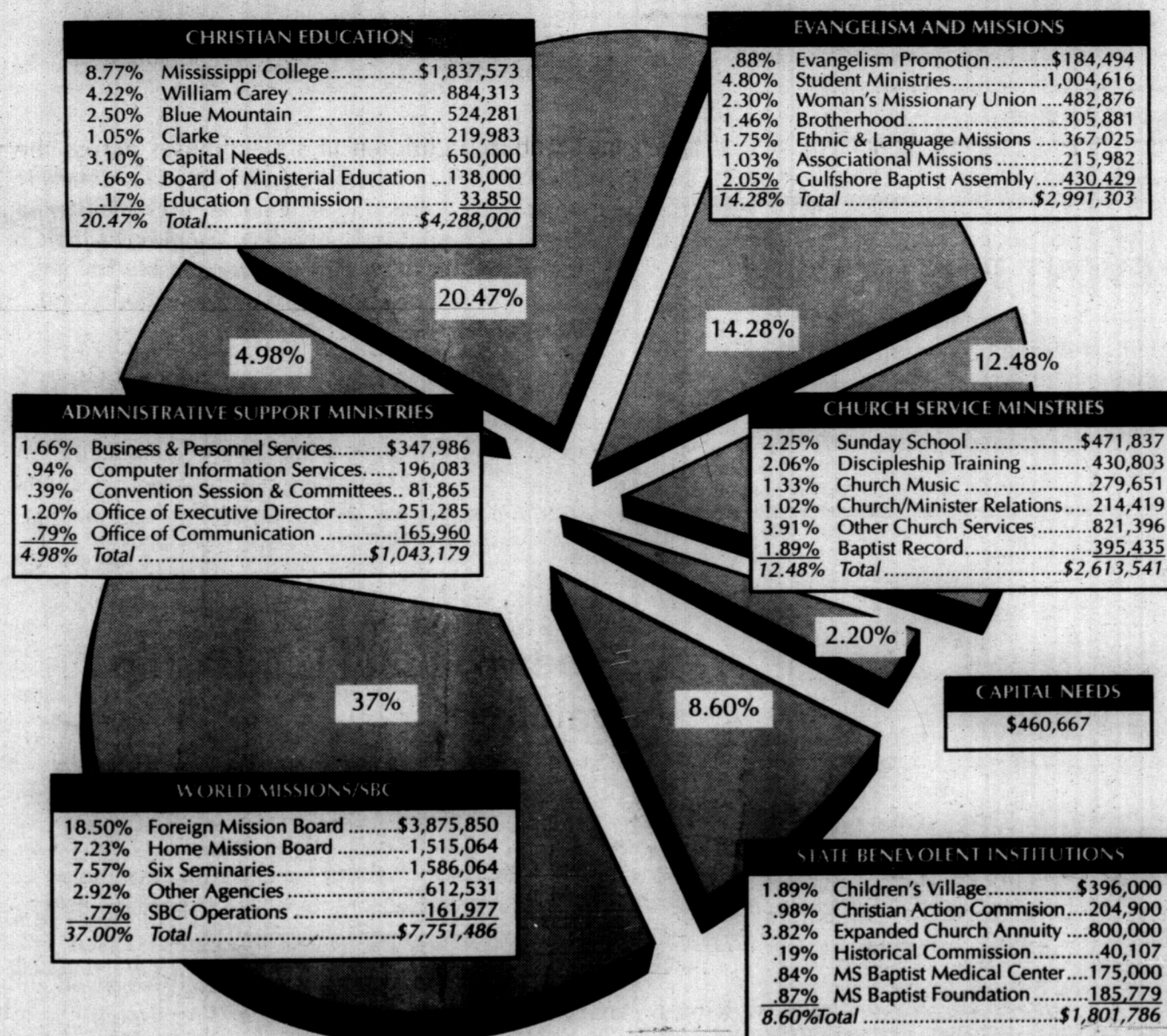


### DOTTIE WILLIAMSON

Carriere, Mississippi

The Cooperative Program means starting churches to Dottie Williamson. She's actually from Texas, but is working in Pearl River Association as a church planter through the Home Mission Board. A question always on her heart is, "Where are the people?" The Cooperative Program helps to find people and include them in God's church.

## 1991 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BUDGET: \$20,949,962



# GRAM DAY • APRIL 21



## PASTOR - DON'T MISS THIS !!

This can be revolutionary for you and your church.

### MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE TOTAL CHURCH LIFE SEMINAR

First Baptist Church, Gulfport MS  
Tuesday, April 30, 1991  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

LED BY: Darrell Robinson, Vice-President, Evangelism Section,  
Home Mission Board

NO REGISTRATION FEE

**Total Church Life Book** given to each participant by the Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Department

Lunch Served by First Baptist Church, Gulfport at a cost of \$3.00

Sponsored by:  
**EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT**  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board  
J. Garland McKee, Director

"Helping to Bring Mississippi  
and the World to Jesus"

## IMPROVED SUNDAY SCHOOL LITERATURE FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Because we care, we listened to you . . . and NOW we're excited about offering you improved Southern Baptist preschool literature for your church beginning with the October 1991 quarter!

Here's a summary of improvements:

### *Stronger Emphasis on the Bible*

- More Bible stories
- More Bible verses
- More Bible study for teachers

### *Added Evangelism and Application*

- Plan of salvation for witnessing to parents
- More application of Bible stories to preschoolers' lives
- More ideas for outreach and ministry to preschoolers' families

### *Greater Ease of Use*

- Easy guidance steps
- BASIC and EXPANDED teaching plans
- Convenient unit overview pages

### *Increased Attractiveness*

- Full-color covers; more color inside
- More attractively designed materials
- Increased use of art

## EVENT POSTPONED

The Annual banquet meeting of the  
**Medical-Dental Fellowship** scheduled for  
May 2, 1991  
at First Baptist Church Jackson  
has been postponed.

## Focus on Families This Spring

**SENIOR ADULT DAY**—May 5  
Theme: Seniors Reaching Seniors

**CHRISTIAN HOME EMPHASIS**—May 6-June 16,  
(Mother's Day to Father's Day)  
Theme: Families Reaching Families

### SUGGESTED EVENTS:

- May 8 Rally in celebration of the Christian family
- May 12 Launch "Families in Bible Study and Worship"  
A Sunday School plan for May 12-June 16  
Mothers' Day  
Begin study of special age group books  
Sunday nights
- May 19 Graduates' Day emphasis
- May 24-27 Memorial Day Weekend family retreat
- June 1 Kid's Day Out
- June 2 Children's day
- June 9 High attendance day in Sunday School
- June 16 Father's Day  
Every Monday - Home Lifetime (Family night at home) **Home Life** Magazine carries suggestions  
Every Wednesday Night Family Night at Church  
(Single Adult Day is Suggested for September 8)  
Theme: Every Single Won

### RESOURCES AVAILABLE

See the 1991 Family Ministry Planbook for detailed suggestions. Mailed to all churches from the Baptist Sunday School Board. Additional copies available from Family Ministry Section, Discipleship Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Order the Christian Home Emphasis Preview/Planning Resource Kit. A complete set of materials designed to help plan, promote, and conduct the comprehensive Christian Home Emphasis. Available from a Baptist Book Store or by phone from the Baptist Sunday School Board, 1-800 458-BSSB

## Sunday School Leadership Training

*Session I—August 1-3 and Session II—August 8-10 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly* offers churches the opportunity to train untrained leadership.

"BREAKTHROUGH: Sunday School Work" will help leadership to reach persons for Bible study, teach the Bible, and witness to persons about Christ.

Be a part of this exciting weekend. Preschoolers and children will participate in Bible study and recreation.

For reservations request contact: Frank Simmons, Manager • Gulfshore Baptist Assembly • Henderson Point • Pass Christian, MS 39571.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following are a few of the volunteer opportunities available through the Foreign Mission Board:

LOCATION	ASSIGNMENT	TEAM SIZE	DATE/DURATION
China	English teachers	50	July/August, 1991
Suriname	Librarian	1	April, 1991—2 weeks
Argentina	Library Cataloger	1	1991—3-4 months
France	Construction	8	ASAP, 2 weeks
France	Construction	4	June 17, 1991—2 weeks
Peru	Dozer Operator	2	June, 1991—1 month
Sierra Leone	Instructor in computer operations	1	ASAP, 1-3 months
Southern Africa	Assist Team	7	Oct. 18, 1991—2 weeks
Venezuela	Track & Field Clinic	3-4	July, 1991—10 days

To find out more about any of these projects, call the Volunteer Department at the Foreign Mission Board at 1(800) 999-3113.

HOUSE OF



Thursday, April 18, 1991

# Well done

By Guy Henderson

Two servants of our Lord died this past week who had touched my life in significant ways. I heard Percy Ray preach several times when I was in college. He had a way of preaching that caused you to remember. Camp Zion's ministry reached across our nation — people in half a dozen states have asked me if I knew Percy Ray. He and R. G. Lee dedicated seven churches in one day in a whirlwind of activity across north Mississippi.

In 1958, I was attending a Gideon meeting in Connecticut where Pat Zonderman was the speaker. In the course of his message, he said, "Now, I know there is no one here who knows where Myrtle, Miss. is . . ." I wanted to jump up and say, "Man, I've been there." Zonderman went on to relate one of the many pleasant memories he had of Percy Ray.

For almost a week, David Grant and I roomed together in a Vancouver evangelism meeting. We laughed a lot, we prayed together, at times we wept together. It was my privilege to be interim preacher at Broadmoor when he retired, and it was easy to see the reservoir of good will towards this godly man. I remember David best as a teacher of witness training. We worked together in half a dozen such meetings in our state. He was not only a great teacher, but he faithfully practiced what he taught.

We lose a number of preachers each year, but these two touched my life in such a way that I want to say, "So long, friends. You've blessed me."

## BRUCES

From page 4

Georgia. Though she had a bachelor's degree in international affairs and all the credits toward a master's degree in political science from the University of Maine, she had been unable to use her training in international affairs, because her oldest daughter was "asthmatic and could not be 500 miles from the nearest hospital."

In Atlanta in 1974, Jean's husband told her he was moving the family to Mississippi. Six months later, he left her, in a new state, without resources. "I was as far down as I could possibly go when Jesus Christ came into my life May 10, 1975," she said recently. Her conversion came during a Billy Graham Crusade in Jackson, when she went to hear Johnny Cash sing, "because it was free."

Later that year, a job opened up for her with United Church Directories (she credits the Lord for that job opportunity). She remained with that company 10 years, and was their supervisor over six states when she left to work with Leon at his business, Choctaw Mechanical and Electrical, Ackerman.)

The Christmas after Jean accepted Christ, so did her younger daughter, Tammy. "But she was unable to cope with life. The day after her adopted father's new marriage (mid-1976), she went into his bedroom and took his shotgun and ended her life."

Soon afterward, Jean met Leon. "He thought I was a nut. He couldn't understand why I didn't have any bitterness or anger in my heart. But I was attractive enough for him to come to Jackson that weekend with two football tickets." Saturday morning she was ready to go to a spiritual conference, when he rang her doorbell. "I told Leon that Jesus Christ was first in my life and if he wanted to come along, fine. Otherwise, goodbye." He gave up the football game and went with her. Next day he attended the Singles Again Sunday School class with her at First Church, Jackson.

For the next two years, Leon knew that if he went with Jean it would likely be to a Christian workshop on Saturday or to church on Sunday. He had been reared in Choctaw County, except for four years of high school at Drew while his father was chief electrician at Parchman. He had studied at Mississippi State four years.

When he was 10, he had joined Ackerman Church. "I was in Sunday School and RAs and all that," he remembers. But his new birth, he testifies, took place on the Natchez Trace in January, 1979. He had been

to Jackson to see Jean and was on his way home to Ackerman. That day, words of Genesis 6:3 echoed through his mind — "My spirit shall not always strive with man . . ." He didn't even know he knew that verse. Now he began to understand the truth of what an elderly black woman, a friend of his family, had once said to him: "Joining the church can no more make you a Christian than sitting in the henhouse can make you a chicken."

Suddenly he became convinced that if he did not yield to God by a certain milepost that God's spirit would stop striving with him. "The Lord spoke to me," he said. "I pulled the car to the side of the road, confessed my sins, and turned my life over to the Lord."

He did not make his decision public right away, to a church or to Jean. To his marriage proposals, she kept saying no. "I knew I was in over my head," she said. "I knew I had allowed myself to fall in love with an unsaved person." So she broke up with him and for six weeks lived what she remembers as "a horrible existence."

"In late April, one Saturday morning," she said, "the Lord woke me up and told me to go to Ackerman. I did. I walked into a cafe and sat down, and Leon came over and sat down, and he followed me back to Jackson as if we had never had a problem. The next day he made his acceptance of Christ public at church service." After church that day, she asked him when did he want to get married. Just to give themselves time to make sure God was in this, they set the date for Nov. 10, 1979.

Besides their prison ministry, they are always helping others, in many ways, according to the Choctaw-Webster director of missions, Charles Gordon. For instance, they keep on hand food supplies to give to needy families referred to them by the Welfare Department. They aided a family stranded in a nearby state park. They witnessed to and helped three young Mexicans who happened to be passing through Ackerman.

"We don't separate people by classes," Leon said. "We just minister to all, as the Lord leads us."

One day, when the prison psychologist was talking about behavior modification, Leon told him that the prison inmates would not change "unless the inner man changes. They are like 'whitewashed sepulchres.' If they are changed within, then their behavior will change."

That is exactly what had happened to both himself and Jean. The inner person changed; then the outer life changed.

## TRUSTEES

From page 3

tributed to them," miracles "did indeed occur as supernatural events in history" and the "historical narratives given by biblical authors were indeed accurate and reliable."

In response, Southern's faculty voted unanimously to ask the board to rescind its action. They were joined in their appeal by officers of the seminary's alumni association. Faculty argued in a statement that the trustee decision created "significant problems" in the faculty's relationship with the board, misused the Peace Committee report and introduced "ambiguity and confusion" into the seminary's instructional process. It also expressed concerns about implications for accreditation and recruitment of faculty and students.

In addition to its statement on Scripture, the covenant commits trustees, administration, and faculty to "a system of seminary governance which maintains in the operation of the institution the distinct and separate functions of trustees, administration, and faculty." The covenant also promises trustees, administration, and faculty will seek an "inclusive ministry to all Southern Baptists in a period of transition in denominational leadership and theological interpretation within the Southern Baptist Convention."

Trustee Executive Committee Chairman Wayne Allen, a member of the ad hoc trustee committee, said the covenant is a step toward building trust between faculty and trustees and could help "avoid a head-on collision" between the two groups. "I feel that we are headed for some very troubled days that could affect the vitality and life of this institution if everybody isn't willing to make some concessions," he said.

Trustee Jerry Johnson, a pastor from Aurora, Colo., offered an amendment that would have added the Peace Committee report to the covenant and made other editorial changes to the document. The amendment failed 16-36.

By failing to mention the Peace Committee report in the covenant, Johnson charged the document had failed to be sensitive to "the group that owns and operates the school, the Southern Baptist Convention."

Trustee Harry Dent, a writer and lay speaker from Columbia, S.C., praised the work of the ad hoc trustee and faculty committees. "I believe God has worked a virtual miracle

## Literacy workshop planned for May

A literacy workshop will be held at Mississippi College two weekends in May, under sponsorship of the Mississippi Baptist Literacy Organization and the Hinds-Madison Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. The dates will be on May 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on May 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The continuing workshop on May 17 and 18 will be held at the same hours.

The purpose of the workshop is to teach teachers for reading, writing, and conversational English. The leaders will be Rene Sugg and Erin Ewing. For further information call Rene Sugg, 982-0262; Erin Ewing, 366-4588, or Indy Whitten, 924-1340.

Those interested are asked to call one of these numbers. Participants will bring a sack lunch on Saturday and drinks will be provided. The only cost will be for the Literacy Handbook.

through you people," he said. Approval of the covenant could "set a precedent" throughout the SBC, he observed.

Prior to voting on the covenant, Honeycutt urged trustees to approve the document. "We face a crisis in this institution that could bring us into the same disarray as our sister institution on the Eastern seaboard," said Honeycutt in reference to tensions at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. "I don't think there is a trustee here, I don't think there is a single Southern Baptist who wants us to follow that route."

In an interview after the vote, Honeycutt called the covenant a "historic document" for the seminary and Southern Baptists. "I think if there were the same spirit in SBC leadership that we have seen here this afternoon and with the faculty, we would resolve the SBC controversy in less than 24 months," he said.

Faculty Association President Bill J. Leonard said in an interview the adoption of the covenant gives hope to the faculty. "Both the faculty and trustees have reservations about the document, but this is a way of starting to alleviate the crisis atmosphere and everybody prefers this document to a crisis atmosphere," he said.

Cole is PR writer, Southern Seminary.

## WMU

From page 3

— A service of missions-centered music is slated for Sunday evening. Four choirs from the Atlanta area will bring special music in addition to congregational singing. The Atlanta Korean Children's Choir is one of the choirs to perform.


— Dellanna W. O'Brien, national WMU executive director, will present her report during the Monday morning session. The president's address by McCullough is scheduled for Monday afternoon.

— Theme interpretations will be presented by The Company, a dramatic group from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

— A fashion show featuring children's clothing from mission areas around the world will be the highlight of a luncheon Monday. Children from the Atlanta area will model national dress from every continent where Southern Baptists have work.

The luncheon will be held in the Georgia World Congress Center. Tickets are \$18 and must be ordered by May 1 from: Annual Meeting Meal Tickets, Order Accounting, Woman's Missionary Union, P.O. Box 830010, Birmingham, Ala. 35283-0010.

Todd writes for WMU, SBC.



### ATLANTA GEORGIA JUNE 6-7-8 NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE Convention '91

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#### Special Hotel Rates

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Childcare information available . . . infants through 12 years. (4-12 will enjoy out-of-door activities).


#### Prayer Breakfast Speaker



Dr. Richard D. Land is Executive Director-Treasurer of the Christian Life Commission, the Southern Baptist Convention's agency for "applied Christianity" (social and moral concerns). He has served in this position since his election in October, 1988.

**Dr. Richard D. Land**

#### Banquet Featured Speaker



Rush Limbaugh is a highly sought after luncheon and dinner speaker, and his "Rush To Excellence Tour" travels to 45 cities a year. Rush was nominated by the National Association of Broadcasters for the Marconi Award as 1990 Syndicated Radio Personality of the Year.

**Rush Limbaugh**

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**CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

<p><b>Type of Registration:</b></p> <p>Early Registration (before May 10) . . . \$95.00</p> <p>Late Registration (after May 10) . . . \$115.00</p> <p>Senior Citizens (65+) . . . \$60.00</p> <p>Youth (College and Teens) . . . \$15.00</p> <p>One-Day Registration . . . \$40.00</p> <p>Prayer Breakfast (Friday A.M.) . . . \$15.00</p> <p>Closing Banquet (Saturday P.M.) . . . \$35.00</p> <p>TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____</p> <p>Please make checks payable to NRLC '91.</p>	<p><b>PLEASE PRINT</b></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone ( ) _____</p> <p>Please return Convention Registration to: NRLC '91 419 7th St., N.W., Suite 500 Washington, D.C. 20004</p>
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## POSTAGE

From page 3

need this information. We can't afford to cut," explained Fletcher Allen, editor.

"The feeling from the state editors is mixed. Most think we should pay our fair share if we in turn receive service due," said Allen, who is also president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, organization of state Baptist newspaper editors.

Asked by Baptist Press why such a large increase in second class postage rates was needed, Leslie Clark, attorney for the U.S. Postal Service in Washington, who handled the second-class rate design, said, "There were no specific reasons stated, though there is lots of speculation . . . Legal-

ly, rate increases can be proposed only when there is an increase in cost."

U.S. Postal officials contacted by Baptist Press were not able to indicate if state Baptist editors can expect more efficient service in paying higher rates.

"Second class non-profit mailers have been dealt with unfairly," said Sommerkamp. "It is unjust to raise us 20-25 percent. There is a bias and a don't care attitude (from the postal service)."

Presnell Wood seemed to sum up the overall feelings of state Baptist editors: "This is not good. It hurts. It hurts because it means fewer people will receive Baptist news. It's a serious thing."

## PHILIPPINES

From page 3

mother who was having trouble sleeping.

Skinner's subtle Christian witness was magnified many times over by the 34 volunteers who traveled to the Philippines March 1-15.

Working alongside Filipino Baptist pastors and lay leaders and Southern Baptist missionaries, the efforts of all involved paid off.

During the two-week period health care workers treated 8,396 medical and dental patients. About 1,948 people made decisions, the majority first-time professions of faith, as Filipino leaders did one-on-one and group counseling before, during, and after the clinics.

"Church planting can be done

through medical outreach," said Nashville physician Dewey Dunn, member of Woodmont Baptist Church and coordinator of the medical efforts.

"Good seeds have been planted. We are seeing hearts being softened," said Nelson Espana, pastor of Lupon Baptist Church and moderator of the Davao Oriental Association of Baptist Churches.

Missionary Dee Oliver who lives in Mati concurred. "The biggest results will be the contacts that lead to one-on-one witnessing," he said.

Team members also agreed there was no doubt God's presence was with them throughout the time.

Wilkey is associate editor of the BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR, Tennessee.

## Revival dates

**Wheeler Grove Church (Alcorn):** April 21-26; services beginning nightly at 7 p.m.; Gary Rivers, pastor, East Gadsden Church, Gadsden, Ala., evangelist; Kara Blackard, pistor.

**Wynndale Church, Terry:** April 21-25; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon-Thur., 7 p.m.; James Fancher, evangelism consultant for Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Graham Smith, director of Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, music; Charles Gentry, pastor.

**First Church, Terry:** April 21-24; Sunday, 10:30 a.m., 7 p.m.; and covered dish; Mon-Wed., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Jimmy Porter, First Church, McComb, evangelist; Charles Fowler, First Church, Ridgeland, music; Gowan Ellis, pastor.

**Holmesville Church, McComb (Pike):** April 21-24; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Mon-Wed., 7 p.m.; Walter Sisco, Bethel Church (Lincoln), evangelist; Tim King, South McComb Church, McComb, music; D. L. Callender, pastor.

**Center Terrace Church, Canton:** April 21-24; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon-Wed., 7 p.m.; Max Jones, pastor, Old Silver Creek Church, Silver Creek, evangelist; Phillip Willis, Baton Rouge, La., music evangelist; Danny Berry, interim pastor.

**Plainway Church, Laurel:** April 21-26; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. each evening; Hardy R. Denham Jr., Hattiesburg, works with ministerial students at William Carey College, evangelist; Collette Ishee, Plainway Church, music; Kent W. Megehee, pastor.

**Corinth Baptist Church, Leake Association, and Pleasant Grove Congregational Methodist Church, Carthage:** joint tent revival; April 21-26; 7 p.m. nightly; Jerry Henderson, Shiloh Baptist Church, Saraland, Ala., and Ned Chipley, Wesleyan Bible Church, Dallas, Texas, evangelists; Brad and Tammy Jones, First Church, Carthage, music; Paul Sanders, Corinth Church, and Bobby Roberson, Pleasant Grove Congregational Methodist Church, host pastors.

**First Church, Corinth (Alcorn):** April 21-24; Rick Ingle, evangelist; services, Sunday, 10:45 and 7 p.m.; Mon-Wed., 12 noon and 7 p.m.; Dennis H. Smith, pastor.

**Byram Church, Jackson:** April 21-24; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Rod Wilton, pastor, Calvary Church, Thibodeaux, La., evangelist; Joel Ragains, music; James Whittington, pastor.

**Tishomingo Church, Tishomingo:** April 21-25; 7 p.m. nightly; Jim Futral, pastor, Broadmoor Church, Jackson, evangelist; Philip Parker, minister of music and youth, Tishomingo Church, music.

**Shiloh Church, Mantachie (Itawamba):** April 21-25; Sunday, 6:30 p.m.; Mon-Thurs., 7 p.m.; ICC BSU revival team will have charge of preaching and singing. Ronald Harris, pastor.

**Robinhood Church (Rankin):** April 21-24; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon-Wed., 7 p.m.; Joe H. Tuten, evangelist; Susan Clark, music; Don Nerren, pastor.

## Revival dates

**First Church, Lyman (Gulf Coast):** April 21-24; Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Jerry Pipes, Completeness Ministries, evangelist; Keith Hill, music; Don Snipes, pastor.

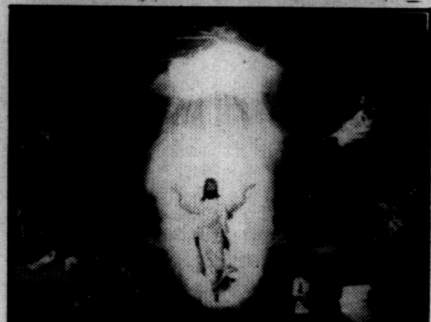
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## LETTERS FROM CAREY - Choosing Our Future

Jim Edwards, President Volume 2, No. 2

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. . . to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

A Tennessee friend gave me a plaque late in 1988 with this Jeremiah verse on it. I was starting a consulting business in Nashville and had plans and strategies for several business ventures in that area. Three months later, I was sitting in Bill Stewart's office in Eupora, listening to him outline the consulting needs of the MBC's Education Commission study of William Carey College. The rest, as they say, is history. God obviously had other plans for me. Notice the Jeremiah verse.

"I . . . know . . . the . . . plans I . . . have . . . for . . . you."

God already knows the specific plans that He has for us. As we choose our future - personally, in church life, or at work - He wants us to find and follow His plan.

## "VISIONS 2000"

In July 1990 we started "Visions 2000" - a long-range planning program under the leadership of Larry Kennedy and Trustee William Browning. We expect to finish a 10-year plan by the Fall of 1991. A Blue Ribbon Committee of 100 alumni, trustees, faculty, students, parents and denominational leaders is helping us with our dreams for a new William Carey College. We have had "Visions 2000" forums and "Visions of Excellence" dinners in the following areas:

- Hattiesburg
- Collins
- Laurel
- Ellisville
- Columbia
- Brookhaven
- Gulfport
- Biloxi
- Long Beach
- Meridian
- Pascagoula

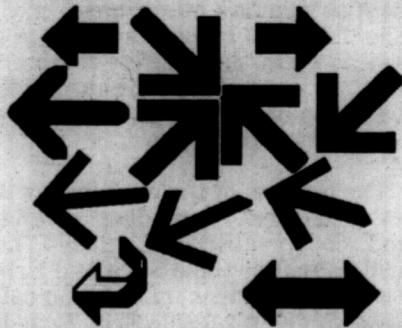
The hundreds of people attending have learned about

our plans to be a distinctively Christian college. Again, notice the Jeremiah verse.

to . . . give . . . you . . . a . . . future  
Choosing our future involves finding what God has already given us, a day or a decade at a time.

## "TYPE A OR B"

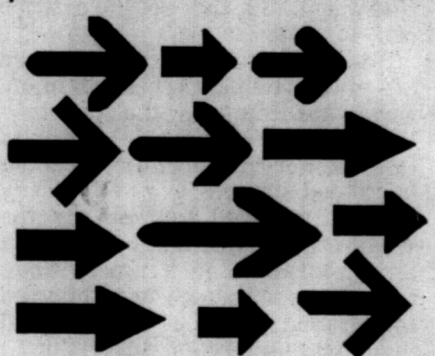
Management theory suggests many organizations including colleges, churches, and families - can be depicted as "Type A" or "Type B" in terms of people working together. Looks familiar doesn't it? People pulling individually in all directions. It's no wonder



that we make so little progress toward our goals! Imagine how Jesus' ministry changed when all twelve disciples started working in harmony together for His

Kingdom instead of their own needs. That's a Type B organization - people working together toward the same future.

Two years ago, William Carey College and its constituents looked like a Type A organization. Much of the progress and positive momentum of the three previous decades had somehow



been lost sight of and Mississippi Baptists were unsure if that momentum could be regained. Under God's direction it has been. Although all the "arrows" are still not moving in the same direction at the same rate, much has been done to chart our future course with help from the MBC and our other supporters.

## "OPTIMISM AND HOPE"

A sign on the Presidents office door at Carey states "Optimism Starts Here". Actually, optimism starts with the grace and mercy of God, for Jeremiah said He has given us a hope. God is telling us in this Old Testament verse that our future - whether in 10-year plans or next month's needs - is rooted in the singularity of hope He has given us through the Easter event miracle and His Son, Jesus Christ.

In management terms, God wants us to be Type B people and plan for our organizations in ways that use the power and momentum created by moving together toward Him. Most of us act at some time of each day like the last two arrows under Type A - trying to turn away from God or trying to have it both ways. Patiently He seeks to keep turning us toward His future for us that ultimately we must choose.

P.S. Next week - choosing the resources we use.



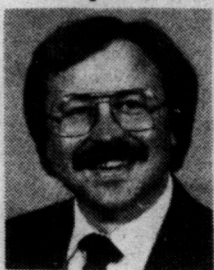




# Redemption and salvation: God's glorious gifts to us

By Benny Still  
Ephesians 1:3-14

My aunt and uncle are antique buffs. They enjoy going to sales and auctions looking for that special "something" to enhance their



Still

assortment of collectible antiques. An old pencil sketch of Abraham Lincoln was sold at one of the sales they attended for \$2. It was then purchased by another interested buyer for \$25. Several weeks later, that \$2 sketch was discovered to be an original dating back to the early 1860s and was sold to the Smithsonian Institute for \$25,000. My uncle had held the sketch in his hand when it had been worth only \$2. He didn't realize what he had!

Do we know what we have in the salvation provided by God through his Son, Jesus? Do we really know its value in eternal terms? Salvation can't be bought or sold — but many times we underestimate its true value because we don't fully understand its accompanying benefits. The apostle Paul gives us a whole passel of benefits that are ours as a result of the marvelous work God has done through his Son, Jesus, and continues to do through the power

## LIFE AND WORK

of the Holy Spirit. In verses 3-6 we see the redemptive work of God the Father. Verses 7-12 describe the redemptive work of God the Son. And the redemptive work of God the Holy Spirit is explained in verses 13-14. Long before Thomas Ken penned the words to "The Doxology" in 1695, Paul was busy writing lyrics of his own in a litany of praise to God that has been unsurpassed by any "would-be" writers since.

Not a single Christian is exempt from offering praise to God for providing so glorious a salvation (v. 3). Redemption in Christ was made possible through God's grace (unmerited favor) toward us and his awesome, unconditional love as displayed through the gift of his Son, Jesus (vv. 3, 6, 12, 14). Verses 4-6 refer to our being chosen as God's holy people and the concept of predestination as it applies to the adoption of believers into divine sonship. Some would contend that no matter what we try to do in life, if God has predestined us to be saved, then we will be saved. They even go a step further to say that an individual really has no choice in the matter of salvation at all — that

God already knows who will or will not be saved. There's no future in arguing what God doesn't know — for he is omniscient! We do have a choice in the matter: the course our lives take. We do make the final decision as to whether we accept Jesus or reject him. No one can make that choice for us — not even God, for he has given us a freedom of choice in the realm of following his will. 2 Peter 3:9 says, "He is not willing that any should perish," but many times we do choose to go against God's will for our lives. Those who choose not to accept Jesus pay the high price of eternity in hell for their misplaced choices.

If we are to get to God, we must go through his Son, Jesus (John 14:6) — and to do that requires that our sins be wiped away. Sin cannot come into the presence of God. God even turned his back to Jesus as he hung on the cross carrying the burden of our sin on his shoulders. God redeems us through his Son and forgives our sins based on the payment Jesus made for them on the cross through his shed blood (vs. 7). Ultimately, all things are to be brought back under the lordship of Christ. In him the redeemed will receive their inheritance . . . heaven! All that God does in redemption, he does through his Son (vv. 8-11).

A note I received from a dear friend last week revealed a testimony of grace for me. He had

chosen to pay off a debt that I had incurred previously but had not fully paid.

All my friend wanted was for me to accept his gift. All that God wanted us to do is to accept his gift of salvation. None of us deserves his generosity, especially the elimination of our sin debt — but aren't you glad God is God and we aren't?! His grace truly is amazing, isn't it?

Listen now! Here's the icing on the cake: "When we heard the word of truth — the gospel of salvation, we were included in Christ. And having believed were marked in him with seal, the promised Holy Spirit . . . (now, hold on!) . . . who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory" (vv. 13-14, NIV). Would you agree that's like having the Holy Spirit co-sign your note with Jesus at the Bank of Heaven, assuring that your mansion will be ready?! I can handle that! Can't you?!

In these verses, Paul outlines 12 things that God has done and continues to do for us in Christ Jesus. If we really know what we have in salvation, we need to be praising more, doubting less, and actually becoming a mirror through which Christ Jesus is reflected in us to others!

Still is pastor, Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall.

# Learning to love as Jesus loved takes a lifetime

By Ruth N. Allen  
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13

Learning to love is a process beginning at birth and culminating in heaven. "We are by nature the children of wrath" (Ephesians 2:3).



Allen

All men are born with a strong tendency to sin and to love self. The warm, cuddly infant begins a few minutes after birth to display temper and selfishness. Therefore, learning to love must be taught from birth to the grave. It is a process which will continue until heaven is attained.

Two experiences in my life have been very helpful in learning to love. In my early years of education, use of the Bible and some of the fables served in laying a foundation for teaching ethics and morals. One of my favorite fables was about the wind and sun. The wind and the sun had an argument over which could cause a man to remove his coat. The wind blew its fiercest, but the man only drew his coat tighter about him; then the sun shone bright and warm on the man, and he voluntarily removed his coat. The moral of the story is obvious. From this fable,

## UNIFORM

I began early in life to learn a more excellent way.

My second experience occurred when I entered college. A professor and his wife gave me the small volume, entitled *The Greatest Thing In The World*, written by Henry Drummond, based on the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians: "Love is a compound thing, Paul tells us. It is like light. As you take a beam of light and pass it through a crystal prism, it comes out on the other side of the prism broken up into all of the colors of the rainbow. So Paul passes this love through the magnificent prism of his inspired intellect, and it comes out on the other side broken up into its elements. The Spectrum of Love has nine ingredients: Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Humility, Courtesy, Unselfishness, Good Temper, Guilelessness, and Sincerity." Drummond continues, "Instead of allowing yourself to be so unhappy, just let your love grow as God wants it to grow; seek goodness in others; love persons more and more; love them more personally, more unselfishly, without thought of return. The return, never fear, will take care of itself."

Love is a more excellent way (12:27-31). Paul

enumerates some of the gifts which God gives to believers. However, he points out the superiority of love over the other gifts. The person who possesses the ability to love after the manner of Jesus has found the more excellent way. Love is the way of God, and the path he chose for himself is the path he has chosen for his followers.

Unless motivated by love, all gifts are nothing (13:1-3). In the KJV the word "charity" is used for love. This choice of word has created some misunderstanding, because it carries the idea of gifts to charitable causes. This misnomer has prohibited many from fully comprehending the concept of love. The word is "agape" and always signifies the highest type of love. It is the kind of love God demonstrated when "he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16).

If believers are motivated by anything less than a God-type of love, then those persons are "nothing" in the sight of God. Actually, a better meaning is to use the word "zero" instead of "nothing." In the language of the game of baseball, a person with a batting average of zero does not make the team. A player may excel in all facets of the game; but if the batting average does not measure up, his other skills count for nothing.

Love is the best way (13:4-7). Love never says, "You will do this for me, if you love me." Rather,

love says, "Because I love you, I will not expect nor will I ask you." Love thinks of others before self. Love thinks the best and hopes the best in others. Loving others may not always be the easiest way, but it is the always the best way.

Love is permanent (13:8-12). Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). In the preceding verses Jesus was talking about the ability to love beyond family and friends. Consequently, my opinion is that Jesus is saying to be perfect in love as the Father in heaven is perfect in his love. In fact, love is the only quality where perfection is possible. Love alone has permanence in this world and the world to come.

Love is the greatest of Christian graces (13:13). Faith will be superseded with knowledge and hope with reality. Love is the only enduring quality and will excel over all others.

This Sunday is LIFE COMMITMENT SUNDAY. Pray that your behavior at all times and in all places will be consistent with God, and that your love will reach beyond the boundaries of family and friends. Reach out in love to all people.

Allen of Jackson, is the wife of Judd Allen, pastor of Ogden Church, Bentonla.

# David becomes king — the challenge of new leadership

By Jerry Vardaman  
II Sam. 5:1-25; I Chron. 3:4-8

It is always an exciting time when an institution is guided by dynamic, new leadership. So much is at stake when the torch of leadership is passed. This was the case in ancient Israel, as well.



Vardaman

Paul tells us that after David "served his own generation by the will of God he fell asleep," then his son Solomon took over (Acts 13:36). Our lesson today deals with David's assumption of power over the entire nation of Israel. Paul wisely saw that it was in accord with the will of God who had guided this person in all of his past decisions and conduct.

**David and Hebron** — David served in Hebron for 7½ years and then moved his capital to Jerusalem. No doubt these people of Hebron (about 30 miles south of Jerusalem) disliked David's transfer of the capital to Jerusalem. This is why Absalom could begin a revolt in Hebron (II Sam. 15:7-10). But Hebron was not located centrally enough and was too provincial to please the people of the Northern Kingdom. A new leader will often have to make decisions not pleasing to everyone, but which are necessary due to the new situation which must be met.

## BIBLE BOOK

**David's capture of Jerusalem** — The people of Jerusalem were so confident of their security within their strong walls that they used a ploy to insult David and his men. They placed blind and lame people on the wall, suggesting perhaps that only crippled people would be necessary to foil David's attempt to take the city! It is even possible that this was done partly to curse David as well, (a type of magic whereby if anyone touched these crippled people, he would also become crippled).

The "gutter" (II Sam. 5:8) which is mentioned was discovered in 1876 by Charles Warren, possibly. In the top of the cave where the water collects in the only spring Jerusalem had (Gihon), there was discovered a vertical shaft which enabled people, located in Jerusalem above to lower buckets into the spring in times of siege. Perhaps Joab led David's men up that shaft into the city — somewhat like the Trojan horse story. Once the men were inside the city they could have opened the gates of Jerusalem and let their comrades inside as well. (See Y. Shiloh, Qedem 19, pp. 21-22). Other scholars believe that Joab's men used a grappling hook weapon to get over the wall and inside the city.

**Hiram (5:11, 12) and the Phoenicians** — The Phoenicians were very skilled in working with

stone, and David was wise enough to utilize their abilities in this respect. His court was more up-to-date than the palace which Saul used at Gibeah.

David did locate the new capital close to the place where the older capital had been previously located. When Gibeah (=Tel el Ful today) was uncovered, Albright found the small citadel above where David played his harp before Saul, and where that demented monarch hurled his spear at the gifted musician (I Sam. 18:10, 11; 19:9, 10). A careful reading of I Chron. 18:14-17 shows David's new administrative arrangements. He greatly increased the efficiency of his court and appointed numerous key persons to vital positions which Saul had neglected. Since Gibeah had been the home of Saul, one can see another reason David needed a new capital; loyalty to Saul was so entrenched at Gibeah that David saw the wisdom of locating the capital elsewhere. Sometimes when older pastors resign from churches, they need to avoid any kind of behavior which could be interpreted as interference in the newer pastor's work! David was wise to carve out new directions and emphases which Saul had overlooked. We have not found his palace in Jerusalem, but it must have been very close to the area of Temple today (perhaps just south of that structure).

Various kings from Tyre were named Hiram. One in the time of Hezekiah paid tribute to the Assyrian king named Tiglath Pileser about

742/1 B.C. (see Pritchard, ANET, p. 283, lines 150 ff.). The Hiram of David and Solomon served about 969-936 B.C. and he ruled over Sidon also.

**David and the Millo** — Archaeologists still attempt to solve many problems about David and his early days at Jerusalem. Miss Kenyon worked in Jerusalem from 1962 onward and, in recent years, another scholar named Shiloh did other work in levels associated with David. Miss Kenyon suggested that "Millo" (which means filling up or filling in) might refer to large scale terrace work which David's builders had to undertake in Jerusalem. The slopes of the city are very steep in the areas used in David's time, and in order to have houses and gardens for its inhabitants, Jerusalem's slopes had to be improved with this terrace construction, especially since under David (and particularly as his capital) the population of the city began to swell and expand. This might well be one of the reasons the writer of II Sam. said: ". . . And David went on and grew great, and the Lord of hosts was with him" (II Sam. 5:10). There is much about David which we will never learn, but the lesson taught in this last verse is still a fitting one for us all. Like David, we need to serve and love God, and he will surely bless with his daily guidance and abiding presence every soul who leans on and knows him.

Vardaman is professor of archaeology, Mississippi State University.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW



## The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

ACCREDITED



P. O. Box 27,  
Clinton, MS 39060-0027  
(601) 922-2242

## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hope-fully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Feb. 1, 1991 -  
Feb. 28, 1991

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Mrs. Jessie Mae Weaver  
Mrs. Frank M. Prince  
Mrs. Jessie Mae (Percy)  
Weaver  
Ray, Brenda & Julie Butler  
Dr. Clarence H. Webb, Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Battle  
Mr. Onous Wells, Sr.  
Fidelis SS, FBC Crystal  
Springs  
Evelyn Mitchell West  
Mrs. Jane D. Pinson  
Mr. John E. White, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. May  
Mrs. Chris White  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom W. Hardage  
Mrs. Martha Whitmire  
Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey Lee Boone  
Mr. H. G. (Hal) Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. P. N. Conerly  
Mr. & Mrs. Elwood Crain  
Galilee Baptist Church

Brother of Mr. Bill Wilson  
Mr. Jimmy Truitt  
Mr. John Windham  
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks Earnest  
Mr. John C. Windham  
Mrs. John C. Windham  
Mary Ellen Winstead  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Coil  
TEL SS, Springfield BC  
Carolyn Cooner Withers  
Mrs. E. B. Cooner  
Jack A. Wood  
Mr. & Mrs. Travis Johnson  
Mr. Oscar F. Wynne  
Mr. & Mrs. George  
Makamson  
Mr. & Mrs. James Hitt  
Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Davis  
Mrs. Wirt A. Yeger, Sr.  
Mr. Eason Leake  
Mrs. W. R. Newman III  
Mr. William D. (Billy)  
Aldridge  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Daughdrill  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Rollins  
Galilee Baptist Church  
Earle Alexander  
Mrs. Brock Craft  
Mr. James E. Allen  
Ogden Baptist Church  
Mr. Jimmy Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. N. D. Brookshire  
Jr.  
Mr. Ramey Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. T. D. Woodward  
Jeanne Andersen  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel B.  
Mulholland  
Mr. A. M. Anderson  
Oak Grove Baptist Church  
Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Hicks  
Mr. Roy A. Antrim  
Carl & Fran Weaver  
Laburn & Louise Weaver  
Ms. Verlie S. Weaver  
Mrs. Viola Vineyard  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Burford  
Don L. Vineyard  
Mrs. Viola Vineyard  
Mrs. Carolyn Turner  
Armstrong  
WMU, Ellard BC, Bruce  
Mr. George Wells Armstrong,  
Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey Sanford  
Mr. J. T. Armstrong  
Mrs. S. B. Garner  
Mr. & Mrs. Benton M. Legg  
Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. E. N. Lane  
Mr. Tracy Armstrong  
Mrs. Stephen H. Bryant  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. Webb  
Pryor Construction Inc.  
Mrs. Alyne Arrington  
Mr. Jamie Arrington  
Mr. Winnick L. Ashley  
Galilee Baptist Church  
Mrs. Marjorie Stamps  
Mr. Ashmore  
Mr. Marc McArthur  
Mrs. Maudie Ashmore  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy J. Williams  
Mrs. Molly Rawls Askes  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy B. Rawls  
Mary Babb  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L.  
Dungan Jr.  
Mrs. Bobby Ball  
Virginia & Bettye Brinson  
Mrs. Bobette M. Ball  
Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Rogers  
Mr. T. E. Ballard, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Dolan Fleming  
Mrs. Tom Ballard  
Mrs. J. L. Cutts  
Mr. Frank Bardo  
Graeber Brothers Inc.  
George D. Baringer  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Breland  
Judge O. H. Barnett  
Mrs. Inez Hollis  
Adeaby Baroudy  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey L. Allen  
Jr.  
Mrs. Allie Beasley  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Corage  
Mrs. Grover Bennett  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Howard  
Mrs. Ruth Benoist  
Mrs. J. C. Sides Sr. & Don  
Sides  
Abner W. Berry  
Mr. & Mrs. Dewayne Stevens  
Mr. H. E. Bishop  
Forest Baptist Church

Mrs. Mary Landin Blankenship  
Mr. & Mrs. E. H. Scruggs  
Willie Bell Bone  
Ruth SS, Second BC,  
Greenville  
Mr. Robert H. Boone  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. Rawls  
Mr. W. E. Boswell  
Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Dawkins  
Mrs. Mary Erle Smith  
Mrs. Ora Brantley  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Peacock  
Mr. W. E. Braswell  
Mr. & Mrs. Amos V. Collins  
Mrs. Edna Bruton Brock  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Bruton  
Mr. & Mrs. James J. Graham  
Mr. Lindsey W. Brown  
Mrs. Juanita Brown  
Mrs. T. T. Brown  
Col. & Mrs. Robb F. Klug  
Miss Lena Bruns  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred A. Madsen  
Scott Brunt  
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks Earnest  
Mrs. Martha Gerrard  
Mrs. Jewell Segars  
Mr. Leo Bryant  
Ms. Julia Mullins  
Mrs. Ruby Bryant  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Clanton  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Gray  
Mrs. Pearl Burkes  
Mrs. Minnie Gossett  
Gary Burns  
Mrs. A. Y. Owens  
Mrs. Timmie Butler  
Goss Baptist Church  
Mrs. Emma Cade  
Mr. & Mrs. Billy J. Williams  
Mr. R. P. Sam Calvin  
Rev. & Mrs. James A. Case &  
Family  
Howard Campbell  
Mrs. Lem Pittman  
Martha Lou Campbell  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Gelston  
Purvis Cappleman  
Mrs. Marie Ramsey  
Mrs. Estelle Carlisle  
Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Ray  
Moffett  
Mrs. Claudine Carraway  
Elizabeth Campbell  
Mrs. Dorothy T. Lange  
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Owens  
Mrs. Myrtle Carter  
Mr. & Mrs. Laverne C.  
Harper  
Mrs. C. D. McCurley Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Dunbar McCurley  
Mr. Finas Case  
Rev. & Mrs. James A. Case &  
Family  
Mrs. J. O. Chadwick  
Mr. & Mrs. George Chadwick  
Mr. Norman Chaney  
Mrs. Lois W. Ruth  
Mr. Tom Cheairs  
Mr. Walter Barbee  
Mailon Chesbet  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Coats  
James Clackler  
Arlington Heights Baptist  
Church  
Kathryn Clark  
Mr. & Mrs. F. L. Marvil II  
Mrs. Clement  
Mrs. L. E. Green  
Mrs. Odis Clinton  
Faithful Workers Sunday  
School Petal-Harvey BC  
Mr. W. C. Coaten  
Mr. & Mrs. T. I. Johnson  
Mrs. Elsie Cobb  
Mr. & Mrs. David M.  
Hoffman  
Mrs. C. D. McCurley Sr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Dunbar McCurley  
Mrs. Mattie Coghlan  
Mrs. D. F. Fondren Jr.  
Miss Mary Godbold  
Ms. Maxine J. McKay  
Ms. Veda M. Coil  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Coil  
Ms. Amy C. Beard  
Mrs. Eula Collins  
Mr. & Mrs. D. D. Farmer Sr.  
Dale & Gale Farmer  
Mrs. A. J. Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. E. N. Ross Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Coil  
Mr. Herbert A. Counselman  
Mr. & Mrs. George M.  
Greene  
Mrs. Berdie Crenshaw  
Mr. & Mrs. Ad Rutledge  
Mrs. Reba Crump  
Mr. & Mrs. B. G. Alderman  
Sara G. Darwin  
Wilkes Grissom  
Mrs. Louise G. Owen  
Mrs. Hester Davidson  
Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey Lee Boone

Mr. Cephas A. Dickerson  
Mount Vernon Baptist Church  
Mrs. Helen Gelston  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Gelston  
Mrs. Bertha Dixon  
Virginia & Bettye Brinson  
Mr. Ellett Dogan  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Aultman  
Mr. W. A. Doolittle  
Ms. Rebecca C. Caperton  
Pat Doss  
Mrs. Gladys Frederick  
Mr. Elton Lee Dunn  
Mr. & Mrs. B. G. Alderman  
Mrs. Audell J. Eastham  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Dean  
Bennett Emanuel  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Russum  
Catherine Emerson  
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Bennett  
Miss Bessie Etheridge  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Aultman  
Mr. W. C. Evans  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Corage  
Mrs. H. L. Everett  
Mrs. Herbert E. Bishop  
Rick Ferguson  
Mrs. George M. Yarbrough  
Mr. Willie Floyd  
Sandra K. Grissom  
Mrs. Bernard B. Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Kirk P. Thomas  
Mrs. Dorothy Fondren  
Mrs. Cecil Shadrach  
Aaron Fortenberry  
Mr. & Mrs. Travis Johnson  
Mr. Donald E. Frey  
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Thomas  
Ms. Lula Mae Lindsey  
Mrs. Elise B. Fulcher  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles E.  
Woodruff  
James Gallaspy  
Mr. & Mrs. Barney R. Cook  
Mr. Buford Gandy  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Corage  
Mrs. Maxine Gandy  
Mrs. Gwen S. Ferrell-Allen  
Lora Garner  
Ms. Georgia Cockerham  
Wendy Goodman  
Ms. Thelma Anderson  
Mr. Clyde J. Goodwin  
Graeber Brothers Inc.  
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Mrs. Jessie W. Lewis  
Harley Gordon  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur F. Parsons  
Mrs. Bill Grantham  
Mr. Kenneth C. Foose

(To be continued)

### HONORS

Mrs. Erma Ballard  
Bowen Sunday School, FBC  
Cleveland  
Mrs. Maurine Barrett  
Miss Mary Alice Upchurch &  
Family  
Mrs. Louise Gordon  
5th Grade SS & Teachers,  
FBC Okolona  
Mrs. Ruth Gullledge  
Faith SS, FBC Grenada  
Mrs. Lucy Hudspeth  
Dorcas SS, FBC Magee  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Jones, Eric &  
Do  
Mr. & Mrs. Huber Kendrick  
& Family  
Mr. Byron Livingston  
Emma Edmonds, SS,  
Calvary, Tupelo  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy May  
Ina Buckley, Marcia & Truett  
Smith  
Dr. Celeste V. Moore  
Mrs. E. Jerry Vardaman  
Elaine Mosley  
Mr. & Mrs. Benn Thompson  
& Family  
Mrs. P. C. Renshaw  
Emma Edmonds SS, Calvary,  
Tupelo  
Mrs. Virginia Robbins  
Emma Edmonds SS, Calvary  
BC, Tupelo  
Mrs. Juanita Rollins  
Hope SS, Centerville BC  
Mrs. J. Y. Sasser  
Ms. Evelyn L. Tomecko  
Dr. Carolyn V. Tingle  
Mrs. E. Jerry Vardaman  
Mrs. Laverne Tynes  
Laverne Tynes SS, Van  
Winkle BC  
Mrs. Jessie Mae Yates  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles N. Yates



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**FANATIC HINDU GROUP ATTACKS PASTOR, SON: KARNATAKA, India (EP)** — A native missionary and pastor supported by the U.S.-based Gospel for Asia (GFA) was recently beaten by a group of fanatic Hindus who hoped to intimidate the Christian from continuing evangelistic efforts among his Hindu countrymen. In the attack, the pastor's seven-year-old son suffered a broken back when he was struck with an iron bar. Brother Babu and son John Wesley were hospitalized after the attack. Babu has been working in Karnataka state for two years. Before he came to the village there were no Christians living there.

**RENO, Nev. (BP)** — **ERNEST B. MYERS**, the Nevada Baptist Convention founding executive director-treasurer, will retire June 30, 1992. Myers, 65, has been Nevada's chief executive officer since January of 1979. His retirement actually begins March 15, 1992, but he will use accrued vacation until the end of June. The announcement was made during the March session of the Nevada Baptist Convention executive board held in Reno this week. Since the state convention's organization in 1979, the number of churches has more than doubled, total membership has grown to 23,000 and the state budget has expanded from \$390,000 to more than \$1.7 million. A native of Mississippi, Myers previously pastored in Gautier.

**PARENTS VOICE CONCERN OVER 'OCCULTIC' GAME: ST. PAUL, Minn. (EP)** — Parents in a St. Paul suburb are concerned about "Wizards," a curriculum which they believe uses occultic creatures, symbols, and other elements to teach vocabulary and spelling. The optional curriculum was designed as a fantasy game for elementary and junior high students, and is available to St. Paul teachers to use at their own discretion. "Wizards is a role-playing simulation game," according to the curriculum's stated purpose. "It is designed to reinforce students' basic language arts skills while they travel on a treasure quest through a fantasy land of dragons, wizards, and monsters." Students begin the game as humans, and if they score well on weekly spelling and related language arts exercises, they progress by becoming various creatures, such as enchanter, sorcerer, magician, and finally wizard. School board officials said they will take the concerns of the parents into consideration.

**ROBERT (RUSTY) SUMRALL**, native of Gulfport and formerly pastor in Crystal Springs and Pattison, is now director of missions in the Greater Rochester Baptist Association in Rochester, N.Y. He requests prayer for three bi-vocational pastors needed for new mission points, for a ministry with the 50,000 hearing impaired people in Rochester, and for the needs of the Sumrall family. Mrs. Sumrall (Becky) is ministering in a low income apartment complex with 1,500 residents.

**MEASLES EPIDEMIC — PHILADELPHIA, Penn. (EP)** — In an effort to halt a measles epidemic which has struck the children of two churches that emphasize faith healing, a family court judge in Philadelphia has granted the city the right to immunize six children who are believed to be at risk in one of the congregations.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ADVERTISING REFORMS GATHER MOMENTUM: Senator Strom Thurmond (R-SC) and Representative Joseph Kennedy, II (D-MA) have introduced companion bills requiring alcoholic beverage advertising to include warnings about use of the country's favorite drug. The bills would require that one of five specific warnings be incorporated into any form of advertising for alcoholic beverages: on drinking during pregnancy, driving a car or operating machinery while under the influence of alcohol, using alcohol in conjunction with over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit drugs, the addictive properties of alcohol, and the illegal purchase of alcohol for minors.**

**SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY HONORS THREE: FORT WORTH, Texas** — Three graduates of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, have been chosen Distinguished Alumni for 1991 and will be recognized June 5 at the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta. The three represent diverse areas of ministry, including foreign missions, evangelism, and pastoral ministry. Receiving the award this year are Eloise Glass (Mrs. Baker J.) Cauthen, widow of the former executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and former missionary to China; Ralph Langley, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.; and Bill Glass, founder of the Bill Glass Evangelistic Association and former All-American and All-Pro football player.

**LAW HELPED REDUCE TEEN PREGNANCY: MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (EP)** — Pregnancy rates among Minnesota's minors apparently dropped under a law that requires teens to notify parents when seeking an abortion, a new study shows.

**P&G OBTAINS \$75,000 JUDGMENT IN SATANISM SUIT — CINCINNATI, March 19, PRNewswire** — The Procter & Gamble Company announced today that a \$75,000 monetary judgment has been entered against James H. Newton and Linda K. Newton of Newton & Associates, independent Amway distributors, in a suit charging that they spread false and malicious statements associating P&G with Satanism. P&G filed the suit on July 31, 1990 in U.S. District Court in Topeka, Kan. Robert L. Wehling, vice president of public affairs for The Procter & Gamble Company, said, "P&G cares a great deal about its employees, shareholders, customers, and consumers. These ridiculous lies have cost the company a lot of time and energy over the past ten years. We continue to pursue legal recourse against those spreading such rumors, and we will file additional lawsuits if necessary."

**TEACHERS NEEDED IN CHINA** — Cooperative Services International has more than 60 teaching positions in China to fill by next September, reports Jack Shelby of Hong Kong. Qualified English teachers who would be interested in serving in China for one or two years should contact Pat Parrish or Glenn Prescott at the Foreign Mission Board, (804) 353-0151.

## Winning souls requires faith explanation

By Mark Wingfield  
**FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)** — Evangelism requires Christians explain their faith as well as challenge others to accept it, a seminary professor told Southern Baptist interfaith witness leaders.

Danny Sanchez, associate professor of missions at Southwestern Seminary, spoke to the annual meeting of state interfaith witness coordinators in Fort Worth, Texas. He challenged them to study other religions to be able to present the Christian gospel clearly to people from non-Christian backgrounds.

"We need to be able to share the gospel in such a way that people might understand it," Sanchez said. Too often Christians assume non-Christians have a blank mind toward the gospel and will easily understand it when challenged to respond, he continued. Other times, Christians assume others already know the basics of the gospel and just need to be firmly challenged to repent.

Sanchez illustrated by telling about witnessing to a man on a city bus. He began by telling the man, "The Bible says..."

The man interrupted him to ask, "When you say Bible, what do you mean?"

With an increasingly pluralistic society in America, evangelism will require more cultivation, Sanchez claimed.

"Many people who have grown up in our churches see decision-making as a point. They remember when they made a decision. But for most people that come from other religious backgrounds, the decision-making process will be different.

"For these type people, sharing the gospel is a process; it takes time.

"I'm concerned that all too often we don't want to pay the price for this type of involvement," he said. "But I'm also concerned that there are many people who will never be reached without this type of commitment."

Wingfield writes for HMB.

There is no other door to knowledge than the door nature opens; there is no truth except the truths we discover in nature. — Luther Burbank

## Tennessee volunteers help at Crisis Center in Clarksdale

Eight women representing four churches from Beulah Baptist Association, Martin, Tenn., went to Clarksdale, on March 24, to assist the North Delta Association with winter clothes-give-away (a time when clients are given extra winter clothes to make way for summer clothing distribution).

The Lydia Sunday School class of Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale, prepared an evening meal for the volunteers. After they settled sleeping bags in the cottage they would use all week, M. C. Johnson, director of missions, North Delta Association, took them to visit the Crisis Center.

As the clients came in each morning, the women registered them and helped in filling out their applications. Volunteers from Baptist churches locally worked with them at various times. Some worked with the children; two often held babies.

Every person was offered a free blood pressure check and free eye examination and given appropriate literature regarding those problem



## Bolivar men work in Mexico

Fourteen men from seven Bolivar County churches left Feb. 23 for Mission, Texas, where they stayed while working on a project in Comolis, Mexico. The group completed work on the 1,500 square foot church building which was begun in 1990 by a group from Georgia. They were a part of the dedication service held when the work was completed. Volunteer team members, pictured, left to right, are W. H. Howarth, Skene; Joey Herbison, Calvary; Edd Garrison, Providence; Robert Haney, Interstate; D. A. "Doc" Brown, missions development council director for the association, Skene; Charles Mosley, Providence; Jimmy Alford, Morrison Chapel; Eugene Walden, Providence; Joe Earl Watford, Skene; Jewel Henderson, Merigold; Odis Henderson, Bolivar director of missions, Merigold; Allen Woodhouse, Calvary; J. S. White, First Church, Cleveland. The project was sponsored by Bolivar Association.

## Carey College will change to 10-week trimester schedule

William Carey College officials have announced that the Hattiesburg campus will change its schedule from the traditional semester basis to a 10-week trimester schedule, effective in the fall of 1991.

The change, according to President Jim Edwards, was made to streamline the administration of the college and to further the college's goal of providing choice and flexibility in its offerings to students.

"The Gulfport and New Orleans campuses have operated on a 10-week trimester basis for a number of years. That approach remains popular with our students on the Gulf Coast, and the shift to a 10-week basis at our New Orleans campus was a major factor in the growth of our nursing program there," Edwards stated.

"It is somewhat ironic that we are making this decision at the time the University of Southern Mississippi branch at Gulf Park is shifting from

the trimester to the semester schedule. But since approximately 70 percent of William Carey's coursework is already on the 10-week basis, we decided to place all of our offerings on the same schedule."

Students will be offered the opportunity to participate in a new work service program, which is designed to provide a means for students to earn a portion of college costs and also to enhance the meaning and value of all work in the minds of Carey students.

"New and flexible MBA and graduate education offerings will also provide students a choice on the 10-week trimester system. We are restructuring the MBA program to appeal more directly to the needs of young executives working in South Mississippi."

"We believe the 10-week trimester system, which offers all courses for semester hour credit, will allow many students, especially those in some of the professional areas of study, to progress more quickly through the completion of their degrees," Edwards concluded.

Baptist Record

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April 18, 1991

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205